

T H E
A D V E N T U R E S
O F
M i s s P O L L Y B - - C H - - R D ,
A N D
S A M U E L T Y R R E L , E s q u i r e .

Written by the L A D Y H E R S E L F .

Wherein are Introduced

The A M O U R S of L O S C A R D O S and
Z A P H S H A R R A K .

L O N D O N :

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THE
ADVENTURES
OF

Miss POLLY B---CH---RD.

CHAP. I.

Account of Polly's family. Her mother's setting out in life. Courted by a Baronet. Married to him. Polly and her mother separated from him.

HAVING taken upon me the office of an historian, (tho' but of my own life) methinks, I hear it demanded who I am, that should have any thing Novel in my character, worthy the publick notice? The latter part of the question must be entirely left to my readers; nor should I have troubled them with the rehearsal of my sufferings, but for the sake of

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such

such young innocent and thoughtless creatures, who resting upon their own integrity, may not be sufficiently upon the reserve, for avoiding those devices and entanglements, which I unthinkingly fell into; and to put them upon their guard against too great confidence in strangers.

As to the former part of the enquiry, my father was a baronet in the county of *S--ff-x*. My mother was one of five daughters of *John Ramsay*, a clergyman, in the county of *Hants*, whose living was near an hundred pounds a year; besides which, having several small additions, (tho' lying at such distances as to be but of little profit to him) they, altogether, augmented his nominal income (as I have heard, for I never knew him) to near an hundred and sixty: but the expence of seven sons, added to his daughters, was so great a demand upon his revenue, that far from being able to accumulate portions for them, as they severally arrived at proper age to require them: It was with the utmost difficulty he could annually make both ends meet.

• My four aunts, (my mother being the youngest child) when of years to assist themselves, were dispersed into as many good families, in that, and the neighbouring counties; and my mother, now about sixteen, was in daily expectation of the same provision; all proper application having been
made

made for that purpose. About her seventeenth year she was received into the house of one Mrs. *Morley*, an elderly, but gay widow lady, who having no child, and a large fortune of her own, besides a considerable jointure, soon became so fond of my mother, as to behave towards her more like a near relation than a meer mistress; insomuch, that before she had been two years with her lady, she had made her so intimately her companion, that she constantly eat at her own table, and was waited upon in the family, with almost equal respect to her mistress.

By degrees, her lady took her upon all visits with her, and dressed her out in as elegant a taste as any young gentlewoman in the country; and in short, her regard for my mother was so great, that Mrs. *Morley's* own relations began to look upon her with a jealous eye, as one, who, in all probability, would prove the supplanter of them, in the old lady's good graces, and run away with the best part of what she would leave behind her.

In my mother's twentieth year, my father (being then about twenty-four years of age, and just returned from his travels, to take possession of four thousand pounds a year, devolved on him by the death of my grandfather) came to wait upon his aunt *Morley*, and stayed two or three days with her.

He was immediately smitten with the person of my mother, which the genteel behaviour she had by this time acquired in the company of his aunt, not a little contributed to; (for at home she had had but scanty opportunity of polishing herself) however, he returned from Mrs. *Morley's*, without attempting the least explanation of his desires; but about three days afterwards, she received a letter from him, replete with the softest tenders of his affection to her, and back'd, by way of postscript, with the strongest injunctions imaginable, against the least mention of either the epistle, or its contents, to his aunt *Morley*; assuring her, that her influence had so attached him to *B-l-s* hall, (the name of his aunt's seat) that he should be unable to survive many days without a sight of her again.

My mother was so divided between the two incompatibles, (as she supposed them to be) to wit, her duty to Mrs. *Morley*, and the future prospect of becoming my lady, that she was in the utmost perplexity how to behave; but chusing some graver counsel than her own, in an affair of so great nicety, she begged the chariot of Mrs. *Morley* for the next day, to pay my grandmother a visit, resolving to be advised by her, what steps would be most prudent for her to proceed by.

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She shewed my grandmother the letter, described the baronet's person, and gave an account of his estate, so much to his advantage, that the prodigious benefit to accrue thereby to her daughter, so far beyond what her warmest wishes could have amounted to; dazzling my grandmother with the glare of the bright prospect, she advised my mother to conceal the letter from her lady, and by no means to discourage my father's addresses. She urged, that Mrs. *Morley's* favour, at best, was precarious, a slight disgust might remove her from every future hope from her, and possibly, reduce her finery to a more abject state than she received her from: But that in case my father's views were but upright, without fraud or private designs; should Mrs. *Morley* have any real affection for her, she would soon be reconciled to them both: If not, being the baronet's lady, would secure her a rank above the reach of Mrs. *Morley's* frowns. Then, particularly cautioning my mother against any other condition, than that of becoming his lawful wife, and recommending the care of her virtue, she returned.

In a very few days, Sir *Joseph* (for so was my father called) again paid his compliments to Mrs. *Morley*, but as the main design of his visit was to establish an interest with my mother, no opportunity of private conference with her was omitted.

The professions he made her on that occasion, being of themselves nothing new, I shall omit them; but his earnestness for her explicit answer was very pressing; he still insisting that his aunt *Morley* might no ways be made privy to his declarations, for that he was certain, she would by every means in her power, interpose both her influence and authority, on both sides, to prevent the match. Now, added he, as no body can judge for me, or be privy to the anxiety of my heart, till we are past disuniting; I can by no means bear even the least interruption from any one.

My mother replied, that though she should be ever for consenting in herself to his wishes; yet she could not apprehend, how it would be possible for her to make those necessary preparations for appearing as his lady, without the knowledge of *Mrs. Morley*, whilst she was under the same roof with her. This he agreed she could not; but by way of expedient, offered to take her home with him, when a short time only, would be necessary for collecting such things as would peculiarly be demanded for her first appearance, and the rest might be procured afterwards.

My mother objected greatly to this proposal, begging to be excused from leaving *Mrs. Morley* till she was actually his wife; for though his engagements bore the most plausible shew, yet she

she dreaded to commit herself to the power of any man, till she should neither be ashamed, or afraid of trusting herself with him, altogether.

This caused a sedateness, and short pause, which produced the following reply; that he could not but highly commend the prudent regard she shewed for her reputation, and that as she had given him to understand, that her mother was already apprized of the regard he had for her, he would forthwith apply to her father (through her mother's mediation) for his approbation also; which not doubting to receive, he would then procure a licence for their nuptials, at her father's own parish, where she should remain, till preparations were made for her introduction to the abby, which was the name of his seat.

This method she approving, he posted to my grandfather's, whose concurrence, he encountered more difficulty to obtain, than she had, that of my grandmother. He started many scruples of the ingratitude of the fact, relative to Mrs. Morley; that he could not dispense with the notion of her ignorance, of what might so nearly concern her; especially, after the obligations which his family lay under to her, for the regard she had ever expressed for his child; nor was he to be wrought upon by any representations of my father's, that surely, no consent need be required towards the

marriage of a child, but from the parents; for my grandfather agreed, that had not Mrs. Morley an interest in him, as her nephew, he should have made no scruple of consenting: but for his daughter, he said, to have been received into Mrs. Morley's family, to have been loaden with favours from her bounty beyond all expectation, and, by way of requital, to marry her relation without her knowledge, and most probably against her inclination too; was to act the part of the viper, in mortally biting the bosom which gives it harbour; for which reason, he begged my father to reconsider his proposal, and not rashly to proceed, by such measures as they might all repent, at least, as might cast a reproach upon his daughter and family.

My father was confounded at these difficulties, but ignorant, how by arguments to oppose my grandfather's reasons, told him, that he would take a turn in the garden, and as he desired, review his scheme, and then deliver his farther opinion.

My grandfather then left him; but as my grandmother (who had during the debate stood neuter) was following him, my father, by the movement of his hands and eyes, seeming to intreat some separate conversation with her, it was not long before she returned again; when my father assured her, that all his hopes would be blasted, unless she

she could exert her interest for my grandfather's consent; for that he, for my mother's peace, had proposed to her the journey, with that view; and should she once be sensible of her father's dissent, he was certain he should never obtain her compliance; and if his aunt *Morley* should gain but the least hint of his design, he despaired of ever accomplishing it.

My grandmother was too fond of her daughter's advancement, to suffer such an offer as this to fail, through the notional scruples of my grandfather; so that following him with all expedition, she press'd him with her intreaties, till he even charged her to let him hear no more of it; adding, that as he never would comply, it was lucky enough, that he had intended a visit to his patron, as the then next *Tuesday*, when he should for some time, be out of the way of all further importunity; for they should never have it to say, that he had been an actor in so unworthy a scene.

No sooner had my grandmother gained this intelligence, than she returned to my father, assuring him, (without any mention of what had passed between her and my grandfather) that if he pleased to appoint any day after next *Tuesday*, both her house, and the church should be at his service; so that he having fixed upon the next *Thursday*, he

took leave of the old gentry, without any further debate with my grandfather.

On *Wednesday* evening, Sir *Joseph* returned to Mrs. *Morley's*, excusing the trouble he should give her of a night's lodging; for that, as he purposed pursuing a journey he had projected, on the next morning, her house would be so much forwarder on his way; and at going to bed, he took leave of the old lady, because he should be set forward before she would be stirring the next day.

It had been concerted over night, that my mother should plant herself at an appointed spot, where his coach was to take her up, and from thence they were to proceed to my grandfather's; where being arrived, the marriage was the next day consummated, and the following they set out for *London*; from whence, after about a month's stay, they arrived at the abbey.

This match, so far beneath my father's quality, soon roused up all his family, and especially his aunt *Morley*, against that of my mother; nor did herself fail of her full share of their indignation: for before the first year of her nuptials was expired, Sir *Joseph's* coldness appeared too visibly, which proceeding to an indifference, was succeeded by cruel jars, and even hatred; till after numberless indignities, reproaches upon her birth, and insults
upon

upon her person, it arrived to separate beds, a kept mistress or two in the house to affront my mother, and every other ignominious treatment, that was possible to distress her, and break her heart; and, lastly to an absolute seclusion from his family, under an allowance of no more than sixty pounds a year for her own maintenance, and forty for mine; nor could this mean pittance be obtained for her, till my uncle, her elder brother, then in orders, and beneficed in *Dorsetshire*, had engaged himself by bond to my father, that she should no more trouble him.

C H A P. II.

Goes to live with her uncle. Has two companions. How they spend their time. A courtier to Miss Plaiſtow. Married to Mr. Giffard. An advantageous offer to Polly. Her thoughts about it. Her mamma's advice thereon.

I Am the only child of this unhappy marriage, and tho' every embellishment was bestowed upon my education for the first fourteen years of my life, I now began to be too sensible of my poor mother's difficulties, to desert her upon her separation from my father; but rather chose to take my

lot in the adversity of so good a woman, than to enjoy the glittering pomp and equipage, which I might still have been mistress of at my father's, where at all events, I must have condescended to the company, and humours of his mistresses, of whom he had two in his house, besides the dairy-maid, a very likely wench, then great with child by him.

My grandfather and grandmother, by my mother's side, were both dead, and my uncle's wife died, about six weeks after my mother and I left my father's; so that we, immediately upon my uncle's loss, both retired to his house; where my mother, who was an excellent œconomist, was of great service to him, in his family of one daughter, and three sons, two of whom were but very young; but my cousin *Sophia*, being the eldest of his children, was seven months my senior.

My uncle's living not exceeding fourscore pounds a year, the addition of forty, which we paid for both our boards, was a great help towards our comfortable subsistence; my mother, taking upon herself all his domestick affairs.

For the first year of our residence with my uncle, we were visited by abundance of the gentry of the country, who had been my mother's acquaintance in her prosperity; nor was she a whit
more

more slighted, or disregarded by them now, than when she lived in all her splendor; one or other of them would frequently send their equipages for us, to spend a few days with them; nor could any woman be more respected than she was, by all that knew her; till, at length, she having engaged herself so deeply in my uncle's concerns; (that they might not suffer by her absence) so soon as she could with common decency avoid them, she dropt her acquaintance, one by one, till at last, we lived quite retired upon my uncle's living; and with the loss of her acquaintance, she sunk also her ladyship, not permitting the servants, or neighbours, in my uncle's parish to salute her, by any other title than madam.

As youth, to youth, is ever most agreeable; my cousin *Sophia* and I, soon became so delighted with each other's company, temper, and conversation, that we might be said, to have had but one mind, or will, between us; nor were we ever, tho' meerly by accident, separated, but each party regretted it.

In my seventeenth year, an old lady in the neighbourhood, with whom my mother had contracted an intimate friendship, dying, and having only one child, a daughter, who was also a particular crony of us young ones; she, confiding in my mother's management of Miss, left my un-
cle

cle her guardian, for so long time as my mother should reside with him; making it her request, that she might be wholly under her guidance, and tuition.

This young lady, Miss *Harriot Plaislow*, was now taken into my uncle's family; and she having about sixty pounds a year left her by her mother, paid twenty of it for her board too, which together with what my mother and I paid, made my uncle's affairs very easy to him.

This addition of Miss *Harriot*, being a girl of most exquisite sweetness of disposition, and discerning faculties, gave *Sophy*, and me great joy; nor was herself a whit less delighted with our society, than we were with hers: nor did we ever discourse together of matrimony, (as girls will not be exempt from that topick) but we blest the sweet enjoyment of our solitary liberties, and held them at so high a price, that we seemed determined, nothing less than some exceeding advantageous offer, should ever byas us to part with them.

It was not long, before we had reduced our time to such an exact rotation, that either party being absent upon any excursion, was sure of knowing how, and where the others were employed; and could fancy herself then proceeding

ing with them, in their amusement. Of this, I will here give my reader a short sketch: as first, for the whole winter season, from the first of *October*, to the first of *February*, we arose with the earliest dawn of day; and for the remaining seven months, we were sure to be dressed by six. We then descending into the hall from our several apartments; if the weather would permit, walked abroad till eight; when, upon our return, we were certain of finding breakfast ready for us. This being ended, we never stirred from the parlour till nine, when as certain as the clock struck, every door to the house being locked, we all followed my uncle into the prayer-room; and from thence, prayers being ended, we three young one's retired to our chamber, and wrought at our needles; but for the most part, two of us only exercised ourselves that way, whilst the third read some history, a good play, or other instructive and amusing treatise, till eleven or twelve; then away, each to dressing, and met altogether for dinner, at one precisely.

After about an hour's chat with my uncle and mamma, to work again, or to carry relief to some poor neighbour; now and then upon a visit of ceremony, to the better stationed parishioners, and then, a walk, till the evening closed in upon us. We constantly supped at
eight

eight, and after nine o' clock prayers and a little chat, we were all moving for bed.

In this constant rotation of employ did our times pass, in the most pleasing serenity; and often did we compare ourselves to the nuns which we had heard of abroad; nor could we conceive, but that theirs must be a most delicious life, where their inclinations could chime in with each other.

We had never as yet had our joys interrupted, by the least whisper of love, breathed into the senses of either us; but our felicity was of too high a nature to be lasting: for in my nineteenth year, which was Miss *Harriot's* twentieth, in one of our evenings walks, about the latter end of *August*, a young gentleman, who lived within two miles of my uncle's, overtook us in our return, with his gun on his shoulder, a servant with another, and several pointers with him. We had seen him, and he us often, at church; but as my mamma did not visit his family, we knew little more of him, than barely his name.

The beauty of the evening furnishing him with an introduction for discourse, we were not long recovering a full chat; nor would he be diverted from seeing us safe home. I had observed, that the chief direction of his speech pointed to Miss *Harriot*;

Harriot; not but that he was very complemental to us all; and at parting with us at our own door, calling his servant, he presented Miss *Harriot* with the sport of his afternoon, being two brace and a half of partridges.

We all ran in to mamma, mightily pleased with our present; but *Sophy* and I, played of the young Esquire upon Miss *Harry* as a lover, assuring her, how highly we esteemed ourselves obliged to her for the birds, or we had certainly never had them; till at last, *Harry*, not able longer to stand our raillery, replied, that we might joke as long as we pleased, but she was sure if we spoke from our consciences, neither of us could say but he was a very pretty fellow, and behaved in a modest and genteel manner.

- Well! a young gentleman being such a novelty in our companies, we could not forbear entering upon the same topick, in our next morning's sally; nor did his idea quit us till our retirement. But in the afternoon, we were all sent for down, when who should be below in the parlour, but young Mr. *Giffard*, of whom we had been all the morning conversing. He told us, (after some few compliments) that he begged the favour of a dish of tea with us, which my mamma, who was our chief spokes-woman, readily granted, as a great obligation to us.

The

The discourse ran upon the goodness of the game he had presented us, and several other country affairs, till tea was over; when I stepping out for my snuff-box, as we had rallied Miss *Harry* so much upon her sweetheart, *Sophy* imagined no less, than that I had slipped away to give Mr. *Giffard* an opportunity with her, and soon followed me; nor had we been long laughing together in my chamber at the conceit, before Miss *Harry* herself, conjecturing what we were at, had made an elopement likewise, and joined us; when we grew so merry, that it was a long time before we could sufficiently recompose ourselves, for a re-entry; but thinking it would be an extream rudeness in us not to return, we all marched to the parlour in a body.

We were greatly surprized, when upon attempting the door, we found it lock'd; but my mamma hearing us at it, desired us to stay, and she would call us in presently.—So! what could be the meaning of all this?—Mr. *Giffard* and mamma lock'd into the parlour together! Our conjectures rose very thick, and we would have given our skins for a peep-hole. I told Miss *Harry*, I was now sure, that the courtship was fairly begun; but that she might thank me for it: for had not I missed my snuff-box, they could have had no privat conversation together, or he an opportunity

portunity of revealing his mind, either to my mamma, or her.

Bless me! my dear, said *Harry*, why so fond of talking of him? If you did not now judge him to be upon your own business, you would have called another cause before now, I'll warrant you. Nay, replied *Sophy*, her ladyship's my aunt, and truly, I can't see who more proper to receive a proposal on my behalf; therefore pray, my dears, don't exclude me all hopes in the conversation. Miss *Harry* sigh'd; I think him too young, said she, for an husband. Pray, madam, said I, how old would you have him be? I'll answer for it, he's two and twenty, and pray how much older are you?

I thank you, my dear, answered *Harry*, you top me; but an husband should be a little more solid. Here *Sophy* broke out,—Solid! solid! no, no, my dear, it is our business to make 'em solid. ---Let a wife set but half a score bantlings at his table, --- if that don't make him solid, I'm besides my guess.

While we were bantering one another in this manner, the parlour door opening, my mamma called us all in. Come, young ladies, says she, where have you all been? It's very rude of you, to leave a gentleman, whose visit is purposely to yourselves.

yourselves. I had much ado to detain him, for he says, he presumes he shall prevent your evening's walk, if he stays any longer.—Unless the ladies, said he, will give me leave to partake in their diversion. My mamma then inclining to go with us, we equipt, and having spent our usual time at that exercise, he took leave of us at our own door.

Before supper, mamma let us into the secret, that Mr. *Giffard's* amour was with Miss *Harry*; that he had inquired into her fortune, which she had informed him of; when he replied, that he could have wished it had been larger for her own sake; but that he had a clear eight hundred a year, half of which, with her own, he would settle upon her; and that if she could condescend to become his wife upon those terms, he should have arrived at the summit of his ambition. That he had often sought an opportunity of her company; but never, till last night, was so happy as to fall into it; when she intirely compleated, the conquest she had before began. My dear, said my mamma, I have faithfully related to you our conference; but shall not require your answer till to morrow, these are weighty affairs, and ought not to receive a light determination.

In short, Miss *Harry* approved, courtship proceeded, and an happier pair never met in wedlock;

lock; but still, that new engagement could not interrupt the sincere affection she bore to us, or we to her; so that no opportunity was omitted by either of us, of obtaining the other's conversation; nor was there scarce a day passed, but either she was with us, or we with her.

At one of these interviews came in a young gentleman of *Devonshire*, who had been a school-fellow, and a fellow collegian with Mr. *Giffard* at *Oxford*, intending to pass a few days with him, in his way to *London*. Just before *Sophy* and I took leave for going home, the gentlemen had agreed for a shooting the next morning, and Mrs. *Giffard* engaged us to partake of their game; for says she, my dear, as you propose to be out early, I presume I may promise the ladies a bird of your taking, to help out our family dinner. The gentlemen replied, by all means, and insisted on our coming.

I began, upon the second invitation of the same sort, to imagine, that the stranger had cast a more respectful eye than common, either upon myself or *Sophy*; for that after dinner, as we were toasting the usual healths, before we women left the room to the gentlemen; Mrs. *Giffard* saying something of *London*: Said the stranger, I told thee, *Tom*, that this was to be my last day with you; but rot me, if I think I shall ever be able to quit the county. Why, *Sam*? said Mr. *Giffard*,
if

if you love exercise, and can live as we do, no man shall be so welcome to me as yourself. I'll shew you game enough, I'll warrant you. And will you engage that I shall take it too? said he. We'll do our best endeavours, said Mr. *Giffard*. Then I'm yours, said he, if these pretty ladies will favour us with their companies again. Upon this, we were invited for the third day.

We had no sooner left the gentlemen, and were retired into Mrs. *Giffard's* parlour, than I think, said she, *Polly*, to me, I need use no long preface among friends; but, my dear, added she, you little think what havock you have made in my family. I, my dear, said I, made havock? Ay, you child, replied she; you have shot poor *Tyrrell* (for that was the stranger's name) as dead as a partridge. Mr. *Giffard* had much ado to get him up this morning; and upon their coming home, I filled them each a glass of sack, and brought them a toast after their fatigue; when Mr. *Giffard* drinking to him; *Tyrrell*, instead of pledging in the glass I had set him, poured it back into the bottle, and took this to drink your health with; till I bursting out with laughter, he recovered himself, and again filling his glass, drank it. In short, *Polly*, said she, the man's half crazy for you, and asked forty times after this, how long it would be to dinner.

These,

These, said she, my dear, are remarks of my own ; but I must now inform you what Mr. *Giffard* told me last night. As he and *Tyrrell* were sitting together after supper, while I was retired into my dressing room ; *Tyrrell* asked him who you was ? He told him. She is the charmingest girl, said *Tyrrell*, that ever I beheld ; nor can I rest till she is mine. Prithee, what think you *Tom* ? Will the Baronet part with his daughter ? Mr. *Giffard* said, that as you were both his friends, and making it a point to serve you, he fairly told him, that Sir *Joseph* had parted with you already. Undone ? said he, is she married ? Perhaps a widow. Mr. *Giffard* then repeated to him your story, and the distress your father had driven you to ; when *Tyrrell* grasping his hand, and clapping it to his breast, is this true ? said he ; you rejoice me. Can it be my happy lot to relieve her circumstances !—O ! the glorious day that brought me to thy house, *Tom* !—Can I assist so much beauty, in spite of a vile father !—Can I be so blest !—I will settle my whole estate upon her.—I will not reserve a farthing.—No, generosity is noble, *Tom*.—Could she have brought me a fortune, I would have made terms with her ; but now, my bounty shall run unlimited.—The more happy I can make her, the more I shall pride myself.—Her ladyship and she shall still live like themselves.—O *Tom*, I cannot
leave

leave you, till I am arrived at some certainty.—
My sole felicity will center in delighting her.

I had screened my face with my handkerchief, during most part of this account; but the tears had almost wetted it through: nor could I, when Mrs. *Giffard* demanded of me, what I said to it? reply a word, for a long time; my very heart beat so high, that it stopt my breath, and I really thought that this news would have overcome me. O Mrs. *Giffard*, said I, so soon as I was able to speak; could he make all these professions on my account? she having assured me, that what she had told me, tho' literally true, contained not the tythe of the tenderneſs he expreſt for me. How then, said I, shall I be able, again, to confront so much goodness, who am no ways able to repay it? no, rather let me sink under my own burthen, than draw him down after me.—It shall never be said, that I will contribute, (for any benefit to myself) to the distress of my benefactor, tho' but in intention; for as to him, it is equal as if he had performed it. Excuse me, dear *Giffard*, from dining with you to-morrow as is required; why should I heighten the desires of my friend, (for more than that it is inconsistent for me to grant him) by my presence? unless I meant to encrease, and perfect his views.

What

What can you mean by this? my dear, said Mrs. *Giffard*. Fortune having once frowned upon you, is it never more to smile? This is combining with Sir *Joseph*, meerly to distress yourself.—Who knows, but this may prove a prelude even to your father's favour; for surely, it may shame him to be obliged to Mr. *Tyrrell* for the support of his daughter, without contributing to it himself. Mr. *Tyrrell*'s generosity may work on him, still to do something handsome for you; nay, possibly, by this means, when he shall consider you as independent on him, he may become reconciled to your mamma too; things frequently take unaccountable turns, from the slightest accidents: for tho' the evil disposition of most men prompts them to trample upon the falling; yet those very people shall adore the same star in its ascension. I must be admitted as a by stander, to penetrate deeper into the game than yourself, who are one of the actors; and tho' I would not advise you to employ the least artifice to ensnare, you shall not, by my consent, avoid the truly proffered affection of Mr. *Tyrrell*. Was my fortune, think you, by any means proportionable to Mr. *Giffard*'s? Yet had I brought him tens of thousands, I could not have been happier with him.—I know where the shoe pinches, nor can I blame you for casting a reflection on her ladyship's

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marriage

marriage with Sir *Joseph*; but I would have it only a glance on that, and no more: Mr. *Tyrrell* is a man of different principles from Sir *Joseph*.

I perceive, my dear, said I, that you desery my very foul. I have such thoughts; nor can I easily discharge them. Is not Mr. *Tyrrell* a man? Was not my Father so? nor can Mr. *Tyrrell* be a more zealous admirer of me, than Sir *Joseph* was of my mamma; but the event is too apparent; and all arising from the contempt he held her in, for her inferior birth and indigence. I can't say that, replied Mrs. *Giffard*, nor can I suppose that birth, or riches in your mamma, would have occasioned much alteration in the conduct of Sir *Joseph*; he is a libertine by principle; and tho' I will not contest, that he can never change; yet, my dear, nature must have its perfect work in us all, before we can with the eye of reason eradicate bad principles. The stain that will not wash out, may wear out; and I am of opinion, that much benefit may redound from your union with Mr. *Tyrrell*: therefore, dear *Polly*, no hesitation to oblige me;—dine with me to morrow.

My dearest *Giffard*, said I, will it not appear extreamly forward in me, to force myself, as it were, upon a man who has already professed himself

himself so openly in favour of me? To crowd myself, I say, into his company? and way lay him, to his ruin? I can never bear the thought; when he shall be sensible that I am apprized of his sentiments; and tho', undoubtedly, they ought to claim that merit with me, which should engage my affectionate return; yet, for my own honour, I can never submit to attend him, merely to receive the expressions of his regard for me: therefore you must excuse me,

Mrs. *Giffard*, who had next to her own, my interest at heart, assured me, that whatever had passed between us should be an absolute secret from every one; and that she would pretend, even to Mr. *Giffard* himself, a want of opportunity for revealing it to me; and that then, I need be no more reserved in my appearance before him, than while the secret lay confined only to the narrow limit of his own breast. I replied, that I apprehended it to be a matter of great importance; for tho' Mr. *Tyrrell* should remain ignorant of my knowledge of his views, yet myself being conscious of his inclination, my own blushes, and confusion, would lay me too open to him; but since she was so importunate, I would take the advice of my mamma, and act accordingly.

The generous offer of Mr. Tyrrell, and the seeming sincerity that it was made with, had already captivated my very soul. I was all rapture whenever I reflected on it ; as indeed, I did nothing else.—I admired his humanity to distraction, which consequently introduced a sincere love for his person. I vented myself in tears of joy, to myself, in my own chamber ; in pure delight, at the thoughts of his tenderness for me ; and was proceeding to indulge my reflections, when my mamma passing by my room to her own, I called her in to me.

She was sensibly surprized at the condition she found me in : *Polly*, said she, my dear child, your eyes are almost swollen out of your head. What is the meaning of this ? What injury have you received ? What ill news have you heard ? I charge you, upon my blessing, discover the whole truth to me.

My heart, which was but too free for action before, was not a little spurred to expedition, by the earnest intreaties of my mamma ; so I told her, that one Mr. Tyrrell, a gentleman of eighteen hundred pounds a year in possession, with the expectancy of twelve more on the death of his grandmother, had declared himself in love with me ; and then I aggravated his passion, by the favourable

favourable circumstances which had attended his first expressions of it to Mr. *Giffard*. Well child ! said my mamma ; and is there any thing so irksome in all this, that should cause you to afflict yourself thus about it ?

Dear mamma, said I, what return can I possibly make him for so much goodness ?—To marry him child, said she, and make it the study of your whole life to augment his felicity. Dear madam, said I, what have I to add to his estate, that can make me acceptable to his family ? The sweetest of dispositions, so natural to you, replied my mother ; and a guarded complaisance over all your actions, both to himself and them. Had not you those mamma ? Continued I, and yet miscarried. My dear child, said my mamma, my marriage and its consequences are but as the sport of a well intended institution ; or like a monstrous birth, which from its infrequency, no one expects, till they accidentally feel it ; for were deformities of the issue, or distress of the objects, a necessary consequence of matrimony, the custom had long since become obsolete. Have a good heart, *Polly*, added she ; and when providence makes for you, neglect not gratefully to accept its offers ; least you too late repent the refusal. Can you reduce yourself to the liking of the man ? child.

Reduce myself to it? mamma, said I; reduce myself to it; Why? Madam, can you imagine that I look above him? No, my dear mamma, rather inquire whether my faculties are capable of an elevation to that bright heaven, where his noble soul inhabits.—I am too mean for his way of thinking.—He is but a proper companion for the celestial choir, where all is benignity, all love.—Was ever so sweet a condescension! Unsought, unrequired; he would settle on me his whole estate, he said; and that, the rather, for my inability to proffer him an equivalent; that he might demonstrate to myself, and all the world, both my deserving, and his own passion.

Dear mamma, said I, I could encase him in my heart for ever, for the rapturous benevolence he expresses for me: But O! how unhappy am I to have known it, before himself hath declared it to me! and now, mamma, I must implore your advice, what course to take in the exigence I am in. I then related to her what I had heard from Mrs. Giffard, of Mr. Tyrrell's discourse to her husband, and the pressing desire he had that *Sophy* and I should dine with him again the next day, which I informed my mamma we had promised to do; but that since what had escaped from Mrs. Giffard in the afternoon, I could by no means bring myself to compliance; for that tho' Mrs. Giffard had engaged

engaged not to part with the least hint of our discourse, yet as my conscious heart would not fail of becoming my accuser, I should never again be able to look him in the face as I had done.

My mamma then asked me, what I had been guilty of, that should occasion my bashfulness? especially, as I was not, even by himself supposed to have been acquainted with his sentiments. And by all means advised me to make no difficulty of appearing before him again, just in the same character that I before sustained.

I could have wished, I thought, that my mamma had been of opinion for absenting myself; tho' in that case, I am satisfied, I should not have wanted sufficient argument against it; but yet, a sense of the confusion I must suffer, at those very speeches of Mr. Tyrrell's, which had before slipped by unheeded; and of the advantage I should thereby give him over me, almost bias'd me for declining the invitation: But no sooner had I meditated arguments in support of that resolution, than they vanished upon the agreeable prospect of my being but able to indulge the dear man, in the satisfaction that he had professed my company would afford him. A strong inclination therefore, backed by my mamma's opinion, over-ruling each motion to the contrary, sent me with *Sophy* next day to Mr. Gifford's again.

CHAP. III.

She is courted by Mr. Tyrrell. Her dream. Reflections upon it. Tyrrell leaves her, on promise to return in fourteen days.

THE gentlemen had been sporting in the morning; and after entertaining ourselves most agreeably all dinner time, during which I could apply numberless words and actions (which I had over-looked before) to my own person; a walk was then proposed in the garden, but I could soon perceive, that meer walking was not the sole motive for our retiring thither.

Mr. Giffard's gardens were very large, and so disposed, as to consist of several private walks and divisions, separate from each other. We had not been long moving before Mr. Tyrrell, (who was industriously engaging me in an argument with him) and myself, by the gentle falling back of the rest of the company, found ourselves in the van of our small corps: and he still entertaining my fancy with pleasing passages (tho' of different things) in a manner peculiar to himself, had so withdrawn my attention from the rest of my companions, that

when

when, upon recollecting myself, I had looked round for them, I perceived our company had entirely left us.

I immediately desired we might return in quest of them; but he pretending that they were only struck up some of the cross walks, and that we should meet them on our arrival at the summer-house, which terminated the walk we were then in, I acquiesced, and we still proceeded.

The stage being thus clear; gently taking my hand in his, Miss *Polly*, said Mr. *Tyrrell*, falteringly, will you make me happy? How can you young gentlemen of fortune, with all the world at command, said I, be otherways than happy? My fortune, Miss, replied he, is so entirely in your disposal, for felicity or misery, that I must be obliged to your sentence, whether shall be my future lot. Alas! Sir, said I, sighing, my capacity, by the cruelty of an hard hearted father is confined to very narrow limits. No, madam, added he, your person is a repository of every earthly treasure; nor can I elsewhere hope to be blest, with what is alone in yourself to grant. In short, Miss, be you but mine, and let the whole world be the portion of the next comer. You, Miss, have charmed my very soul, and to you, and you alone, I shall glory in being debtor for all my
C 5 future

future prospects. --- If you hate me not absolutely,
O slight me not!

I blushed excessively, and my heart beat high for enlargement, nor could I answer him, but by my silence; but by my confusion; when observing me so flustered, you do not hate me Miss. O! say you do not, continued he; I shall make no terms with you, no conditions, all that I possess shall be your's equally as my own. I will scorn a property, where you are not a party: though I name not this, by way of inducement to your compliance; for could I imagine you would not be wholly mine from choice, I should be so far from brooking a partial love, that I would rather see you happy with another, than not so with myself.

I told him, that young people, who had parents, were not so far in their own disposal, as of themselves to give peremptory answers to such questions. That I had a father (fetching a deep sigh) and had a most indulgent mother, whom for every reason I venerated; and who would be the properest person, in my name, to reply to such demands, as I was an intire stranger to.

He answered, that his application was not to me, because he aimed at attempting any thing of that nature, without my mamma's advice and consent;

consent; but for that he judged this, properest to succeed to the knowledge of my own inclination; for that should every creature breathing testify their approbation, my single negative, would be sufficient to frustrate his every hope in me; nor could any thing but my free affection crown his wishes: but that he might not press too far, upon what (he then owned) he had no immediate expectation of obtaining; would I permit him to wait upon my mamma? I replied, that she never refused herself to any one who had but the appearance of a gentleman; and he might act therein as he judged proper. He then raising my hand, met it half way, and pressing it to his lips, we turned in search of the rest of the family.

Whilst we were proceeding in quest of our companions, I assured him, that as the professions of his regard for me, were wholly without merit on my part; least he should meet with a disappointment from my mamma, which (from the slender knowledge he had of my affairs) he might not expect, I thought it incumbent on me, before either myself or my mamma declared ourselves further upon his proposals, to inform him of the unhappy situation of my family, and that I neither had, nor expected any fortune from my father. Now sir, said I, as a gentleman of your estate, will undoubtedly require some equivalent, it must be needless to give yourself any further

trouble on my account : all that I have, or can expect to have, being only an annuity of forty pounds, for my diet and cloaths.

I am far Miss, said he, from being a stranger to your circumstances, or those of the lady your mamma ; having already been so inquisitive as to inform myself of them, from Mr. *Giffard* ; nor can it claim the least share in my purposed happiness, that it will be not only in my will, but power, to raise such sweet innocence above the frowns of a dishonourable parent. As to your annuity, it may make some small addition to that of your mamma's ; for I profess to disclaim all title to it ; and if her ladyship will condescend to any further benefit from my estate, my own mother should not with more pleasure participate it with me : therefore, with your leave Miss, I will pay my compliments to your mamma to morrow morning ; but now, my charmer, I must still beg one more favour, wholly in your own power to grant, and will you not refuse me ?

I replied, that it would be impossible for me to resolve him, before I was acquainted with its propriety ; when he assured me, it was only my promise to dine again the next day with his friend *Giffard*. My answer was, that as he purposed a visit to my mamma in the morning, I

having

having no other will but her's, should perform whatever she enjoined me.

By this time we had joined companies, when, as inconsiderate of what had passed, we fell upon other topics till tea time, and that ended, *Sophy* and I took leave, and they all accompanied us part of our way home.

At our return, my mamma being no less anxious for an account of what news, than I was to declare it to her, you may be sure we closeted ourselves as soon as possible; nor was I a little delighted, that my report drew tears of joy from her eyes. O, my dearest *Polly*! said she, What shall I do? How shall I act? How shall I behave towards this worthy man? Do you love him child? Ask me not that question, dear mamma, said I. Act as you please; believe as you please; but surely you can't think that so much goodness can pass unadored by me. O, my dear mamma, had you but heard, with what thorough satisfaction to himself, he slighted my want of fortune? Had you but heard with what frankness he tender'd your participation of his estate with us; what shall I say! You would have been all exstasy, all love towards him: But how to appear before him again at Mr. *Giffard's* to-morrow, after what has passed, I know not: for he intreated me not to fail of coming. Did you promise him, said my mamma?

No,

No, indeed, I replied, I did not, but referred myself as to that, to your determination, when he saw you.

I must confess, the image of the dear *Tyrrell* dwelt most lively in my breast all the night; I arranged his smiles, his diffidence, his every speech, and different elegance in the expressions of them, in my mind, in the most beautiful attitudes imaginable; nor could I enjoy a moment's sleep till morning; when, as I was thinking to rise about my usual time, I insensibly sunk into a doze or slumber. Methought, I was in company of many people, some known, some unknown to me, making merry in the fields; when, on a sudden, *Sophy* and I, were raised up from the earth, and could plainly perceive ourselves to mount higher and higher, over the heads of the multitude, whose eyes were all steadily fixed on us; till arriving amongst the clouds, we lost sight of them. We were now almost at the gate of heaven itself, when we were both in raptures at the delightful prospect. We saw at a distance, still above us, a most beautiful but ancient palace, to which we imagined we were to be conveyed; but before we reached it, we beheld a large company, headed by a very venerable person in white, with a book in his hand, and as we approached them, we were even ravished with the sounds of their harmony.

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The sense of their musick was so delectable, that leaping out of the open chariot, (on which methought we then stood) upon the ground; (as I then apprehended it to be) in order to join the singers; instead of meeting with any solid support for our feet, we both sunk with greater precipitation, than we had speedily arose, catching hold of each other's cloaths in our fall: but I outweighing *Sophy*, and consequently sinking so much faster than she, we were constrained to quit our holds, and separated to so great a distance, as to lose sight of each other. O what were my reflections upon this catastrophe! whither to was I going! what would become of me! my fall would dash me to pieces! I was now over mountains, now plains, now rocks, now oceans; till at last, methought, I alighted on my feet, at the skirt of a large plain, without the least hurt or accident.

I seemed to be so excessively fatigued, that I sat down to rest myself; but having a very craving appetite after my journey, I was almost raving for somewhat to satisfy it; when a traveller chancing to come by, I begged a direction to the habitation of any people, where I might obtain some refreshment. He looking earnestly at me, methought, answered, that I was not far from my own kingdom, where there was plenty

plenty enough. I fancying that he plaid upon my distress, told him, that I could assure him I was no queen, but a poor helpless wretch, wholly friendless and destitute; and again desired his directions. Not a queen? replied he. No, said I, nor do I ever desire to be one. Keep on to your right, said he, but it is a dangerous road, and when you come to your last stage I'll take you home with me. He then left me, but under far greater perplexity than I was in before; when casting one more look behind him, I was so astonished at his appearing to be Mr. Tyrrell, that with struggling to run after him, I awoke.

My spirits were so flustered, my heart throbb'd so, and my whole frame, for a long time, was in such agitation, that I could no longer keep in bed; but up I arose: nor was I then much calmer. The impression this dream had left upon my mind, sat but little lighter on my waking, than my sleeping imagination; insomuch that my mamma, at breakfast-time, taking notice of my disorder, and enquiring after my health; I immediately fell a crying. She said no more then; but after breakfast, taking me into her chamber: what is the matter? my dear, said she, have you heard any thing that disturbs you? I replied, no, (being indeed ashamed to inform her, that my disquiet proceeded only from a dream) but she insisting upon my

my declaring the truth, I was obliged to repeat it to her ; which I did with this comment upon it : that my not arriving at the palace when so near it, must certainly mean, that I should miss of Mr. *Tyrrell*. Well ! but said my mamma, he found you at last *Polly*. Ay, that's true, said I ; but I believe the latter part, only to proceed from the confusion of my fancy, sustained for the first part of my dream.

Come, come, *Polly*, said my mother ; fly those childish fancies, my dear ; is it more than a dream, an idle working of a roving brain ? you had been fatigued for want of sleep all night, then what so natural, as for your last reflections to leave their shadow still in your imagination : But you see, for want of wakeful guidance, how it wandered from the true subject of your elevation to Mr. *Tyrrell's* lady, even to the skies, where being able to tower no higher, and having lost itself in a maze ; what less could be the consequence of your unsteady fancy, than a fall precipitate some whither ; but no one knew whither, till the hurry of action recalled your straggling senses, and caused you to awake. Away, away, therefore I say, with these idle stories, and prosecute your true felicity.

We had scarce ended our discourse, and slept on our cloaths, before Mr. *Tyrrell* and Mr. *Giffard*

fard alighted at the gate, and enquiring for my mamma, were ushered into the parlour. Mr. *Giffard* then stepping out to mamma, only informed her of the occasion of Mr. *Tyrrell's* visit; that he was his intimate acquaintance, a very sober and worthy young gentleman, and really the person he would represent; then asking for me, he took me with him into the garden, while my mamma was entertaining Mr. *Tyrrell*.

After a few turns, Mr. *Giffard* expatiating upon Mr. *Tyrrell's* errand to my mamma; *Polly*, said he, as you know you may be free with me, answer me candidly, is Mr. *Tyrrell's* proposal agreeable to you? I was terribly dashed, but had presence of mind to refer all to her ladyship. My dear, argued Mr. *Giffard*, should you have already placed your affection on any other person, to what purpose will my friend *Tyrrell* trouble your mamma? He has so true a regard for you my dear, that unless your whole heart accompanies any concession your mamma may engage you to make him, he would be far more easy under his own sufferings, than under any disinclined consent of yours. Tell me then *Polly*, added he, have you already bestowed your heart? I assured him, that I was absolutely free from all engagement, even in thought or will. Can you then, said he, place your virgin affections on my friend? I'll promise you, he shall never know your
reply,

reply, without your leave. You believe me your friend ; be free.

I respected Mr. *Giffard*, nor knew I well how to refuse him an implicit answer ; and yet, direct terms were by no means proper to explain myself in. I therefore only replied, that the noble offers Mr. *Tyrrell* had made to so friendless a young creature as myself, I could scarce think would be disregarded by any one in equal circumstances with me.

That's true, my dear, said he, but your love, exclusive of all mercenary considerations, could he be certain of it, would aggravate his joys to the supremest pitch. I should imagine, Mr. *Giffard*, said I, that Mr. *Tyrrell* himself would be far from pleased, at so frank a declaration as you would seem to require from me ; but give me leave to add, as my opinion, that notions so noble as Mr. *Tyrrell's*, exclusive of all consideration of his fortune, to any woman of sense and generosity, ought, at all events, to create her esteem for him ; with which, the love you mention, must either necessarily go hand in hand, or very quickly succeed it.

My mamma, and Mr. *Tyrrell*, not being over tedious in settling their preliminaries, we were soon called in to drink a dish of chocolate with them ;

them; and the gentlemen coming in Mr. Giffard's coach, (Mr. Tyrrell having previously obtained my mamma's consent) *Sophy* and I were taken home to dinner with them; but my mamma, as we were getting ready, informed me of all that had passed, that I might not be unprepared with proper answers, to such requests as Mr. Tyrrell might make me.

Thus all ceremonials being adjusted; I, according to my mamma's instructions, received Mr. Tyrrell's addresses, with somewhat less reserve than before I had done; and we spent near two hours together: but surely another so sincere a lover, was not to be met with in the whole circle of created beings, as that dear man; without the exhibition of those extravagant flights, which (as I have often heard) too frequently accompany the ceremony of courtship: neither, on my part, did I permit his passion by too yielding a supply, to flame out in excess, or stifle it by an immoderate reverberation of its fumes; but gently fanning it, preserved both myself and him in a calm temperature, which affording us the gratefulest mutual delight, neither was he compelled to strain his compliments beyond a natural pitch, or myself to stand the shock of the idle overflowings of an inordinate zeal, wrought up to a pitch of frenzy.

In short, we daily spent so many agreeable hours together, that a thorough familiarity with the subject, rendered it more and more delightful to us both; till having adjusted every previous point, Mr. Tyrrell set out at three weeks end, for his family writings, to be deposited in my mamma's lawyer's hands, preparatory to the settlement which was to be made upon me; he purposing to be back with them, in fourteen days at farthest.

I knew not what to make of his departure; for there is somewhat so pleasing in the society of those who meet on the true footing of unaffected mutual love, that the horror of a separation is insupportable. My heart was ready to burst at parting with him; uncalled for tears trickled down my cheeks, in spite of all restraint; which the kind man beholding, kissed them off, as he mixed his own with them; nor could my voice (but under a stifled tone) submit to the valediction: But part we must, tho' under the strongest assurances, of the little comfort we should enjoy till our next meeting; my eye following him, till he was lost in mist, and one impenetrable glare.

CHAP. IV.

Polly's despondence at Mr. Tyrrell's departure. Stays at Mr. Giffard's. Mr. Grainger visits Giffard. Runs away with Polly. Her fears. Is carried out to sea in a boat. Hopes relief from a ship. How disappointed. Sets sail for Jamaica. Account of Mrs. Vincent.

IT is impossible that any thing should exceed my distress, in the numberless melancholy hours I passed, for the first week from Mr. Tyrrell's departure. What infinite fears had I, lest now he was absent from me, some new face might interpose to withdraw his affection from me; some large fortune tempt him; some advice of his grandmother (of whom he always spoke with a true filial regard) divert him, from the further prosecution of his purpose with me. The disgrace of introducing to his family a helpless girl, ejected from her own; the irreputable life of my father, sickness, nay even death itself was brought to the imaginary account, to compleat my uneasiness and despondency.

I had

I had so often scanned over in my thoughts, every thing that (in my comprehension) could possibly intervene between me and the fruition of Mr. *Tyrrell*, that should fate but avert them, from my lot, I thought, nothing else could give an interruption to my felicity.

My mother, observing my dejection to continue on me for several days, tho' she had expected no less, just at first, and had taken little notice of it; I say, observing, that it rather increased than diminished; she sent *Sophy*, unknown to me, one morning, to acquaint Mrs. *Giffard* of it; and that she apprehended I should make myself sick, if I went on so; and at the same time, to request her to invite me to her house, and if she saw proper, to detain me for a night or two with her, in hopes that company would divert my vapours, as she called them.

Mrs. *Giffard*, greatly delighted at any opportunity of obliging my mamma, especially by a means so agreeable to herself too, sent for me directly; when not appearing to her in that gaiety of disposition that I had been mostly accustomed to, she began to take me to task for my dispiritedness; till having by her pleasantry raised me to somewhat a more chearful temper; she told me, that she was determined not to part with me again, till Mr. *Tyrrell's* return,

return, into whose hands, she would, if possible, redeliver me, the same sprightly creature he had left me.

I made great objections to staying all night with her; but she assured me they were to no purpose: for that she was certain, my mamma would not take the freedom amiss; and least I should be under any concern on that score, she dispatched a messenger for leave, who returned with an answer, that my mamma being sensible I could be no where more safe than with Mrs. *Giffard*, she might keep me as long as she pleased.

This reply of my mamma intirely frustrated my melancholy scheme, that I had promised myself freely, to have indulged on my return home; and now I seemed fixed till that day se'ennight, on which Mr. *Tyrrell* was to return, and which was waited for by me with the utmost impatience: nor had I here the least opportunity for pensiveness, by reason of an uninterrupted succession of amusements, which Mrs. *Giffard*, hourly presented to divert me.

It happened, on the *Tuesday*, before the *Saturday* on which we expected Mr. *Tyrrell*; that one Mr. *Grainger*, (a foreign gentleman, of *Jamaica*, by birth, but who had received his education with Mr. *Giffard* and Mr. *Tyrrell* at *Oxford*, and
had

had since been for some few years at *Jamaica*, where his father had been a most considerable planter) having made a trip hither on his private affairs, had accidentally called in to spend a day or two with Mr. *Giffard* before he left *England* again.

He was a very fine young gentleman, and of a most graceful personage, tho' he had the true *West-India* cast on his countenance, and was by temper very impatient of contradiction; but as he was much of the gentleman in the ladies company, and an excellent companion, he kept alive the mirth of the conversation, whenever he engaged; and from one thing to another, we were most agreeably diverted with him. But the time drawing near for Mr. *Tyrrell's* return, I had prevailed with Mrs. *Giffard* to permit me to go home on *Friday*, it being highly improper, I told her, for me to appear there waiting for him, least he should think me too forward; and this, she judging but reasonable, it was agreed, that they would take the coach on *Friday* evening, and all wait upon me home.

This could not but please me very much, tho' I should have been infinitely more so, had it been consistent with character, that my own eyes might have been the first messengers to my senses of my ever dear *Tyrrell's* arrival.

On the *Friday*, just before noon, came a messenger from an aunt of Mr. *Giffard's*, with notice, that she was taken extreamly ill, and desired to see him and his lady immediately. This blasted all my hopes of seeing home that night; for, as the old lady lived at least seven miles from Mr. *Giffard's*, it would be impossible for them to make the trip with me; (nor would Mrs. *Giffard* suffer me to walk it by myself) and Mr. *Giffard* having a considerable dependence upon the old gentlewoman, could by no means postpone his journey to her, without very probable prejudice.

Mrs. *Giffard*, observing me to be mighty uneasy, as indeed I was; (for I purposed to be better drest for appearing before Mr. *Tyrrell*, than I then was) shewed great concern at my disappointment: when Mr. *Grainger*, who had a chariot and four which he had hired by the week, during his residence in *England*, asked Mrs. *Giffard*, why she would not be so free as to command that, for pretty Miss *Polly*? Why truly, said she, I should have done it, but that I hope for the pleasure of waiting on her to-morrow morning myself; but added she, (perceiving me still uneasy at being put off) if *Polly* would chuse rather to go to night, I believe you will meet both our acknowledgments, for accomodating

ting her. And so, says he, I am to be left alone here by myself, without the least remorse shewn by either of you.

Come, come, *Miss Polly*, said he, let 'em go tuck up their old aunt, and weep her into a good legacy ; while you and I take the other road in my chariot ; be in no concern, I'll take as much care of you as *Mrs. Giffard*, never fear. This settling us all in composure, we thanked *Mr. Grainger*, and *Mrs. Giffard* moved off with her husband.

Mr. Grainger, then desiring me to prepare, said, he would order his coachman to put too, and wait on me again presently ; I did so, and in about half an hour, returning to me, he said all was ready, when I pleased.

Having seated myself in the chariot, I observed that the horses heads stood the wrong way, and told him so. He pretended, that the road just before the door was too narrow for turning a coach and four, but that it being wider somewhat higher, he presumed the fellow purposed to turn there ; and this answer perfectly satisfying me, we shot forwards like an arrow out of a bow ; till having flown at this violent rate for near an hour, without turning, as I expected, I complained to him, that I feared least his servant not being

used to that country, should have lost his way, or perhaps was fuddled, and would possibly do us some mischief. Never fear, replied *Grainger*, my man is master of his business, and is above my finding fault with him ; nay, should I but attempt it, the dog is such a sulky rascal, that he'd quit the box, and tell me I might get home as well as I could ; let him alone, never fear, said he again.

We had now been in the chariot six times longer than we could have been driving but moderately to my uncle's, and still we kept going as fast as ever the horses could clap their feet to the ground ; 'till at length, I began to be so frightened, that I was ready to sink ; for in all the way we had drove, I had not descried the least hedge, gate, stile, steeple, or other mark of any thing, that I had been used to note my way by. Being therefore almost in an agony, I called from the chariot-window, several times, coachman, coachman, as loud as ever I could scream ; but soon discovered, that he had been too well instructed to give the least heed to what I said, or even to take any manner of notice of me ; and what confirmed me in the suspicion was, that tho' I seemed under such terror, Mr. *Grainger* never once offered to second my cries ; but upon my gathering up myself within the chariot ; Miss *Polly*, said he, I should have told you, that my coachman

coachman is deaf. Is your footman deaf, and yourself deaf too? Said I. O! Mr. *Grainger*! this is ungenerous treatment; I hope you don't imagine that I can take this violence for a pleasant frolick; if you do, sir, you are greatly mistaken; and since you are not disposed to attend me to my mother's, I entreat you to set me down here, that I may make the best of my way thither by myself, least it should soon be too dark for me to attempt it.

Madam, said Mr. *Grainger*, why all this difficulty? Can't you trust yourself with a friend of your dear croney, Mrs. *Giffard*? O sir! said I, that dear woman little knows what I feel from your barbarity. There lies your mistake, madam, said he; for I can assure you that this journey is merely by her appointment. By her appointment? returned I, sharply upon him. That I can promise you it is, said he, and but for the laugh which I hope we shall have at it by and by, I would now discover the whole plot to you; for think you, dear Miss *Polly*, that it could be consistent with my nature to occasion the suffering of so charming a creature as you are? Come, have a good heart, I have promised not to discover the secret till after supper; and then, see whether you will have most reason to complain, or rejoice, for what you have so exclaimed against.

We had now passed through a town he called *Ringwood*, and were, as he told me, in *New Forest*; but I knew it only by having before heard the name; and not doubting but what he had told me of Mrs. *Giffard* was true, I composed myself, and became conversible again. I asked him how far this frolick was to carry us, he replied, only to *Lymington*; and there. What there, said I? O! when you come there, added he. Pray dear Mr. *Grainger*, as you say it is but a frolick, answer me, what there?—O! Miss *Polly*, said he, when you come to *Lymington*.—Indeed, Mr. *Grainger*, now you heighten my curiosity above measure. May not I entreat you to break through orders for once. I'll promise you, my dear Mrs. *Giffard* shall never know that you have told me a word, till we come to the destined place. Indeed, she shall not.—Can I withstand a demand from so lovely a lady as you are? Madam, no; I should be barbarous, horrid barbarous: but then, the joke; if they ever know that I have mentioned it to you till we arrive at *Lymington*, all the joke will be spoiled.

Indeed, indeed, they never shall, said I; so only give me a hint good Mr. *Grainger*, a bare hint; and let me find it out of myself, if I can; and when I guess right, you may nod, and then you

you can fairly insist, that you did not tell me. O the little jesuit! said he, what excellent contrivers you ladies are! but come, no more, we shall be there presently.

Good Mr. *Grainger*, added I, how can you torment me so? For I was half wild for the knowledge of a secret, which seemingly had so much at the bottom of it. Who do you think, said he, you will see at *Lymington*? O heavens! cried I, not Mr. *Tyrrell* sure! he then nodded his head.—Waste me not with desire;—that will not do.—Can't you say, yes, if it is so? Good Mr. *Grainger* put me out of my misery. Are we to meet Mr. *Tyrrell* there?—Mr. *Tyrrell*, said he, was my old schoolfellow too, as well as *Giffard*.—Bless me! that is no answer to my question, said I, can't you yet say, yes, or no. I was now ten times more disquieted than before. If you have the least regard for Mr. *Giffard*, his lady, and myself, only say the words yes or no. Yes, said he immediately.—But what do you say yes to? To answer what question? Is Mr. *Tyrrell* to be at *Lymington* to night? Madam, said he, there is no gratifying you, at any rate, consistent with one's own integrity; but look, look, said he, we are entering the town (for we had fooled away almost two hours in this idle chat) and after some driving in it, the chariot turned into an inn, where we were attended

by a whole drove of waiters and wenches, to receive our commands.

One of the maids, I singled from the rest, to shew me a lodging-room; when I pitched on one for myself, having first looked narrowly to all the fastnings, and then, after some stay, descending to Mr. *Grainger*, I claimed his promise of letting me into the secret. He replied, that he had not promised it till after supper; but as he perceived me to be so impatient, he would now disclose the whole mystery to me. Mr. *Tyrrell*, said he, having wrote Mr. *Giffard* word, that he should lie at *Lymington*, and at this house too, as this very night, or at least to be here early the next morning, he beg'd, if it could any ways be so contrived, that they would meet him here, and bring you with them. Now added he, this is what they had intended to have done themselves, had not their aunt's message diverted their purpose; and for that reason, Mrs. *Giffard* prevailed on me to act the part I have performed in it; but, added he, I can't now expect Mr. *Tyrrell* till to morrow morning, for I find he is not arrived yet.

All this seemed so plausible, that my natural good humour returning, and apprehending it to be Mr. *Tyrrell's* request, I was intirely easy, and rested that night in perfect tranquility.

Our

Our breakfast was ready betimes in the morning, and was scarce over, when the chariot appeared at the door. I wondered what business we should have with that, expecting that we had taken our stand till Mr. *Tyrrell's* arrival; but *Grainger* urging, that it was the most disagreeable thing in the world to him, (as he doubted not but it would prove to me) to saunter attendance in a publick inn; told me, he had ordered the chariot, that we might proceed and meet Mr. *Tyrrell*, who would be obliged to cross the river, at a ferry he named to me.

I own it was no less pleasing to me, than it seemed to be to him, to be moving in the chariot, rather than waiting in meer idleness at the inn; so that I readily consenting, away we went for two or three miles by the river side, till we spied a large boat with seven or eight hands in her, to which he ordered the coachman to drive. He then inquiring whether any gentleman and his servant had crossed the water this morning? (As if the boatmen and himself had been intire strangers to each other) they replied in the negative; at the same time offering their service, to convey us over if we pleased, and wait for us till our friend should arrive on the opposite shore.

Mr. *Grainger* then turning to me, Miss *Polly*, said he, what think you? Shall we, (having nothing else to do) cross the water? How we shall surprize him to see us on the river meeting him. I replied, that I was no great admirer of the water; but that, if I thought we should be safe, I would venture. Then the watermen assuring me, that in so stout a boat as theirs, there was no manner of danger, I submitted to board her, and away we went very smoothly.

We had now been a considerable time on the water; but instead of reaching the opposite shore (as I expected we should soon have done) we only made along with the tide down the middle of the stream. I then asked Mr. *Grainger*, why the men did not row over directly a-cross? He told me, that he was surprized they did not; but presumed, that they were best acquainted with their own business. Then putting the question to them myself, they immediately choaked my demand with such reasons, and address'd in such terms, as I not comprehending, was obliged to submit to, rather than further to manifest my ignorance; having often made it my observation, that a connoisseur in any profession, having once espoused a proposition, tho' ever so erroneous, wants not sufficient unintelligible terms to pass all that he says for gospel, upon his nescient auditors.

In

In short, we followed the stream, till it had discharged us of the mouth of the river, and I beheld myself in a monstrous conflux of waters, which I supposed to be the sea. I was then at my wits-end, not being able to conceive whitherto we were going; but observing a ship to lie just behind a point of land to our left, and that we seemed to be bearing towards it, I resolved so soon as we came up with it to cry out, and beg them to take me on board, or to tell me what could be the watermen's design for rowing me out to sea thus: to declare that I was under apprehensions of some mischief from them, and to implore their assistance.

Had it not been for this near approaching relief, which I had promised myself, I should have grown desperate; but under the hope of that, I composed my temper as much as possible, till we were within call of the vessel; when I set up such a cry, as quite shocked our rowers, and brought most of the ship's crew upon deck. I then begged for heaven's sake, that they would have compassion upon a poor helpless young creature; for that I was carrying off, by a set of vile men, but knew not whitherto they were conveying me.

Mr. Grainger was all this while imploying every argument that he could think most proper,

for reducing me to temper ; but they were intirely lost on me, my own cries and exclamations drowning all his rhetorick, till observing the ship's crew letting down her boat into the water, I grew somewhat pacified ; then manning and sending her to us, who now lay upon our oars, I with great alacrity enter'd it ; but intreated Mr. *Grainger*, who was following me, to let me depart alone, for that indeed I was most terribly afraid of him.

He began now to storm and swear like a madman ; but I still persisting in parting from him, and setting up a violent cry on his attempt to board us, the crew of the boat that I was in, insisted, that as their orders were only for me, they would admit of no one else into her.

Mr. *Grainger*, at this, seemed to be wholly disconcerted, storming and raving most outrageously ; but they insisted on his keeping off at his peril, and away they went with me for the vessel : Mr. *Grainger* and his crew, at the same time, rowing by the stern of her. I was in hopes now, that I was fairly rid of them, and ascending the ship with great chearfulness ; but alas ! What will not a man submit to, when once he has invested himself of the resolution of becoming a villain !

I had but just climbed up the larboard side of the ship, and was descending from the gunwall to the
the

the deck; when Mr. *Grainger* appeared at the same exercise, on the starboard side; which gave me such confusion, between hope and fear, that had I not already been on the deck, I had certainly fallen backwards into the sea; but giving a shriek at the sight of him, I sunk against the ship's side, and for some time lost my senses; nor did I recover them again, till (as awaking from a dream) I found myself upon the master's bed, surrounded by two black, and several white women.

They all seemed exceeding tender of me, and upon my least nod or motion, even flew for whatsoever I could but wish for; which expressions of their zeal for my service were a great relief to my then distressed spirits.

So soon as I was able to hold any discourse with them, I desired to know the name of the master of the vessel, which they said was *James Smith*. I then begged the favour of one of them (seemingly a good sort of a woman) to carry my compliments to captain *Smith*, inform him that I was recovered, and to beg the favour of his boat to put me ashore at *Lymington*, or whatever other place would suit better with his convenience. That I was extremely obliged to him for his humane treatment of me, and that I would satisfy the boat's crew for their trouble.

Alas

Alas, madam! said the good woman, (shaking her head) you require an impossibility. The ship is under sail, and all prospect of going on shore is over now, till you arrive at *Jamaica*. At *Jamaica*? Said I earnestly. Yes, madam, replied she, at *Jamaica*; for should we touch any where by the way, which yet I very much question, there will be no going ashore for any of us. Kind Heaven! said I, what am I reserved for! Pray, who are the owners of the ship? There is only one, answered she, and that is Mr. *Grainger*, I think they call him, a very rich man, but I never saw him yet; tho' I am told he is to go over with us.

Pray, said I, Mrs. *Vincent*, (for that I think you say is your name) have you a family or relations abroad? Or what business calls you over thither? She replied, that her husband was a carpenter, who having met with cross accidents in *England*, had hired himself out to Mr. *Grainger* for three years; hoping by the expiration of that time to be able to set up for himself there, and that she was going to settle with him.

I am greatly obliged to you, said I, Mrs. *Vincent*, for this information; but I should still be glad of a sight of captain *Smith*; for upon hearing my story, and the stratagem that hath been used
to

to decoy me hither; I presume he may suspect, that for his own safety, he had best not detain me. I desire, therefore, of you to ask that favour of the captain. You may, if you please, let him understand, that I am a young lady, who have friends in *England*, of ability and inclination to see justice done me.

Mrs. *Vincent* undertook my message; and upon her return, informed me, that the captain was very sorry I should have any cause of complaint on board his ship; and that in all which related to himself, he would avoid every occasion of increasing it; but as to any thing else, he assured her, besides the direction of the vessel in her course, and duly ordering the crew, he had no more command than herself; for the ship being Mr. *Grain-ger's*, as also the lading, he was only servant to him; and could make no counter disposition to whatsoever he saw proper.

C H A P. V.

Polly admits a visit from Grainger. Their discourse at this interview. An account of Grainger's debaucheries. Polly refuses him a second admission. He breaks in and attempts a rape. Polly stabs him. Account of his wound. Grainger orders the ship for Barbadoes.

WHAT can be supposed to equal the acuteness of my reflections, at this report of the captain's ! But now, having the whole contrivance before me in one view, I had only to guard against the dismal consequences, which I could not but naturally apprehend from it : and observing that strange faces were perpetually obtruding upon me, (tho' whether for curiosity only, or to be helpful to me, I know not) I made it my humble request, to whomsoever was of power in the vessel, that no one might be permitted to enter my cabin, but *Mrs. Vincent*.

This, *Mrs. Vincent* informed me, she having in my name requested of the captain, he referred her to *Mr. Grainger*, who received her very civilly, (it being the first time she had ever seen him) and
granted

granted her demand; but withal, strictly enjoined her, that so soon as she should perceive the fury of my passion to be abated, she would beg leave for him to wait upon me; and now, madam, added she, please to signify to me when you shall chuse to admit him; and as you are the best judge of your own disposition, notwithstanding he submitted to me, I shall desire your consent first: for tho' I am yet uninformed of the reason for the constraint you are under, your will shall guide my actions.

I was so well pleased, at having a good sober person of my own sex for my companion, who was most heartily affected with every groan and tear that issued from me; that I received her into my confidence, and related to her the turns of my life; and particularly Mr. *Grainger's* pretence, for inveigling me on shipboard, being that of my meeting a young gentleman to whom I was contracted for marriage, the sight of whom, I expected to have been the end of my present journey. I added, that his regard for me, had even surpassed what I could have believed his sex capable of; nor was my own for him, a whit inferior: judge therefore, said I, Mrs. *Vincent*, what must be the pangs which I do, and must endure, at so cruel a separation from so aimable a man for ever: but shocking as that is, what have I not further to dread, from
a villain,

a villain, who in breach of friendship and hospitality, shall run away from a friend's house, (who had given him shelter and entertained him elegantly) with a young creature committed to their care by her tender parent! O! the distraction of my dear mamma, and Mrs. *Giffard*, at the loss of me, will be no less tormenting than my own; neither is there now the least possibility of informing them of my destination.

Mrs. *Vincent*, good woman, could not restrain herself from tears at my calamity, she wished, she said, that it had been in her power to have relieved me; but it was not, otherwise than by contributing her aid, and advice, to render my uneasy situation as tolerable as circumstances would admit. I thanked her, and begg'd her to spend as much of her time with me as she should be able to spare, for that a friend to communicate one's affliction to, was the only means left me for alleviating mine.

I had passed about a week in this retirement, not a soul but Mrs. *Vincent* coming once near me, since the first day; when Mr. *Grainger* sent me word by Mrs. *Vincent*, that if I would give him leave he would wait upon me. I was extremely shock'd at the message, and had thoughts (at first) of absolutely refusing him, with not only a declaration of my thorough detestation

detestation of the man, but with an execration against his perfidy ; but upon consultation with Mrs. *Vincent*, the consideration of my being wholly in his power, and that the whole crew were at his command ; with the little force my single negative would have in his resolutions, should he be determined ; rather inclined me to compliance, that by my condescension, I might with the better grace expostulate with him. I therefore ordered Mrs. *Vincent* to assure him, that wholly relying on his humanity, neither to insult or abuse me, I did consent to the requested interview, in case he would permit her to be present at it, and upon no account compel her to withdraw, before himself ; all which he readily complying with, in return, sent me word, that he would wait upon me in half an hour

O the agitation of my breast, till the moment of his arrival ! What did I hope ! What did I not dread ! As the consequence of whatever our discourse should turn upon : for that no advantage to my own concerns could result from it, I was most certain ; and that no force should avail him, in prosecution of any dishonourable attempt against my virtue, I was equally resolved ; for having secreted under my cloaths a dagger which had hung up in the cabin, I was determined to part with my honour, but with the life of one, or both of us.

I was

I was highly pleased, upon his entry, to observe that his resolution had not shrouded the consciousness of his own baseness; for he could scarce look me in the face; nor indeed could he speak a word to me in his accustomed accent, but by short and broken interruptions. He bowing, asked me how I did? And hoped, I had wanted for nothing since I had been on board. Yes, replied I, every thing; perpetual want, shame, horror, and amazement, have been my companions, ever since I first set my foot within your chariot; but more especially, since I first entered the boat with you. Will it not redound highly to the honour of Mr. *Grainger*, wherever he is going to, that you have seduced, betrayed, undone, an innocent creature, whose confidence in your honour hath been her only crime? What can you mean, sir, by detaining me your prisoner? True, I am a woman; but born free; and have a will as well as Mr. *Grainger*, and that a reasonable one, which is more than can be said of yours; yourself being arbiter; then why am I to be debar'd the liberty of my own aims and views in life, at the sole pleasure of Mr. *Grainger*? Besides, sir, I am at present the property of a worthy gentleman, whose anguish I feel, by my own; nor doubt I his resentment for your treachery: one, I say, who I doubt not will repay this treatment of me, with usury.

usury to Mr. *Grainger*; but I suppose you have taken your last farewell of *England*, where you must be both ashamed and afraid to shew your head from henceforth, least you meet a retribution. A man so vile as yourself must be a mean coward; nor dare you face Mr. *Tyrrell* on any spot upon the globe. Your soul's too base to be valiant; but no doubt, you now triumph as a conquerour. Of what?—A woman?—A weak, defenceless woman: but did you vanquish in open contest? No, relying upon your gentleness of disposition, you have dared to exhibit to me the naked villain, in surprizing me, under specious pretences, unguarded against a fawning, lying, damn'd hypocrite. These, sir, are the types of a character, which not only here, but on whatever shore I shall hereafter set my foot, I will avouch to be your due: but for what end, what purpose am I used thus? If you have a tongue, declare (how foreign soever from your heart in other cases) the truth to my interrogatories. The noble mind waits no artificial rousing, to enable it for pouring forth the truth; but thine, base *Grainger*! What am I to hope from it!

Ma--dam,—ma--dam, when—you have done,
—be pleased,—pray, madam,—give me leave,—I
say, madam,

What

What wouldst thou say?—What canst thou say?—Cursed deceiver! Canst thou make me any recompence for the loss of that worthy man of honour and probity; that *Tyrrell*, whose soul is as much superior to thine as the polish'd diamond to the crusted pebble.

Ma--dam,—pray madam,—I beg you, madam,—or I must leave you.

Were it not that I glory in thy confusion, I should disdain to crave your stay; but with what view, I say, have you thus exchanged sentiments with the devil himself? Answer, to what purpose am I sailing this ocean, and that with a wretch so loaden with iniquity, that heaven might justly be impeached of partiality, if ever it should suffer you to set foot safely on shore again? With what intent, I say, do you thus forcibly detain me.

O madam! (falling on his knees) forgive a crime, not so much to be imputed to my degeneracy, as to your excellence. Is it possible for mortal eye to be so stupidly dull, as to behold, and not to love? To love, and not labour for enjoyment? What have I done more than the venerated Mr. *Tyrrell* himself would in my case have executed? He saw, he loved you, madam; and have not I done the very same? But had I been
the

the happy man, destined for distinguishing you as my separate property, *Tyrrell* had then acted the guilty *Grainger*: for I am satisfied, that hell itself opposing could not have restrained the pursuit of that man who adores you, with my ardour. Then *Tyrrell* had been guilty, *Grainger* free.

Pray Mr. *Grainger*, what furtherance of your pretensions (think you) can this transaction of yours claim?

Madam, my only hope is, that being destitute of assistance from Mr. *Tyrrell*, you will now, generously, cast yourself into the arms of one who so extravagantly admires you; one, of no meaner views, or fortune in life, than that same *Tyrrell*: one, whose sole desires shall terminate in your pleasure; one, who lives but to augment your felicity.

Mr. *Grainger*, I am apt to believe this to be spoken honestly, in the former part of your declaration to me; tho' the latter can only be guessed at, as it will be impossible ever to reduce it to experiment; but, sir, was this the view you set out with, at leaving my friend *Giffard's*?

I own, madam, it was; or worse must have befallen one of us; for the same kingdom could
never

never have contained a *Grainger* and a *Tyrrell*, had not you been mine.

Surely you had no murth'rous scheme in view !

Tyrrell had never lived to marry you.

Then the kind hand of fate has been too good to me ; for rather had I singly to suffer the cruellest extremities, than that for my sake that dear man should have been involved in the least danger.

Madam, you have shot the severest dart your quiver contains ; you have indeed ; nor would I have shrunk from death, even by the hands of Mr. *Tyrrell* himself, to have extracted from you so desirable an expression, on my own account, with equal energy.

How was it possible, that every thing should so concur to assist your design ? Had that boat waited where we found it, ready mann'd, ever since you had been at land ? If not, how came it so opportunely for your purpose, you making no mention to Mr. *Giffard*, of your so hidden departure ?

Love, madam, quickens the invention,—nothing more.—No sooner were we arrived at *Lymington*, than I dispatched a messenger to the ship, with a letter to the captain, containing my design ;

sign ; with proper instructions how I would have each transaction conducted ; for the ship waited only my return for sailing. I have enjoyed the blessing of my contrivance hitherto, then let me intreat you to honour it with your sanction, by making yourself inseparably mine.

Foul adultery ! Name it no more.—Unite to murderer ! An avowed murderer ! No, *Grainger*, I have had enough of you ; this is too rough a way of courtship for me. I can never submit to bless that man, who can value me so little, as to raise his future hopes upon my eternal infamy. Leave me to my own reflections ; my spirits are their proper food : till having wasted wretched me, they die for lack of further aliment.

Madam !——

Leave me, sir ; leave me. I have heard too much.—Unhappy for thy sake, dear *Tyrrell*, more than for my own. I can sustain my own load, being fully sensible of its weight ;—but thine too ! And here I wept most abundantly.

Mr. *Grainger*, almost wild at beholding me in this distress, ran to comfort me, and grasping my hand in his, began to intreat.

E

Avaunt

Avaunt deceiver!—Remove thy hated person from my sight! Thy touch is cold as death! 'Tis all contagion. Ruin and pestilence issue from thy lips, at every breath you utter. Be-gone, and wait my better temper.

Mrs. *Vincent* was in amaze, at observing me so peremptory with *Grainger*; for she told me after he was gone, that she saw him in such a rage, but a day or two before with the captain, that he, trembled like a leaf in the wind, and was all submission to him.

I replied, that my heart was too much oppress'd to fear any further evil, that either himself or any of his crew could do to me. He had done his worst already, and that I now defied him: as for being his wife, I would be cut limb from limb, and lingering fall to atoms, before I would either by consent, or compulsion, marry him: and, as to violence upon my person, I was prepared for any such attempt, and no ways dreaded it. This I said with intent that he might hear it from Mrs. *Vincent*, and thereby be deterred from any such attempt; having, by this time, conceived such a detestation both of his person and principles, that I must own, I lived in continual dread of some stratagem, for the attainment of his ends.

I had

I had after this daily compliments paid me from him by Mrs. *Vincent*; whose sole employ now was, to be a companion for me: but it was a full fortnight and more, before he made me the least offer of a second visit, in the interim of which, having had long opportunity of discourse with Mrs. *Vincent*, I had from her collected an account of Mr. *Grainger's* life and actions, as she had received it from some of the sailors, who had come over with him, and had known him from his infancy.

She told me, that his father had married three wives from *England*, in as many trips that he had made thither, during his residence in the *West-Indies*, and had buried them all in his own life time. That he left no other son than the present Mr. *Grainger*. That he had been once before in *England* since his father's death, and then carried back a young lady with him, under pretence of marrying her on his arrival; but having had the impudence to debauch her on board, he afterwards turned her a drift in the country, giving her about an hundred pounds their money, with which she had set up a coffee-house. That he had, in general, led a most dissolute life, and that out of above fourscore negro women upon his plantation, there was not one but the too old, or too young, that had ever escaped him.

That his late trip to *England* was for artificers in the building way, to be employed in the erection of an house which he had projected; and for several women-servants, most of which had complained of his too great familiarities with them already; besides those with a married woman or two, who followed their husbands as she did; and that, for his negro women on board, who were four in number, he made just what use of them he saw fit; but truly for her part, she praised her own good fortune, that had so commodiously placed her out of his reach, by stationing her about my person.

This was all most agreeable intelligence to me, you may be sure, who was so absolutely in his power; tho' I chose not to have it believed, that I suspected myself to be so, least it should have given him encouragement.

I received several other messages, that he might be honoured with an interview; but I peremptorily opposed it, after repeated importunities, till we were arrived off *Cuba*, and within few days sail of *Jamaica*; when entering at my cabin-door, as Mrs. *Vincent* and I were leaning at the window; Madam, says he, (and surprized us both) we shall soon touch shore; and I am now come to make my last effort for your favour; my every
future

future prospect in this life depending upon your regard for me.

I scarce know whether is the greater, said I, your stupidity, or presumption, in ever expecting favour from a person so grossly injured by you as I have been. If this be your manner of courtship, for which you would demand a return, let me express it by my hatred and detestation of you. I am above all proffers of your love, and I as much despise your most rancorous malice. You have deprived yourself of all favour from me; insomuch that were Mr. *Tyrrell* no more, (which heaven avert) and were you the only man in all *America*, (where I understand we now are) and was I perishing under the most pressing necessity; I would rather linger out the remains of life in that exigence, than submit to favour you with the slightest instance of my regard, was I sure to gain the globe by it; for that man, who is once ranked in the class of villains, shall forever be my aversion,

Madam, cried *Grainger*, with a stern air; is this your resolution?

It is, said I, wherein I will live and die; nor shall it ever be in your power to cause the least variation in my resolves.

Then, since gentle means and intreaties can't prevail, said he, I have done with them; and as I perceive you have a spirit, let it be my concern to reduce it by force, to pliancy.—Leave the cabin, Mrs. *Vincent*.—I presume you are one of those harpies, who are ever buzzing venomous doctrine in her ears.—Begone, I say; quit the cabin: then I'll state to you, madam, the difference, between treating me like a gentleman, and like a scoundrel.—Mrs. *Vincent* dreading to leave me alone with him. What? Are you retained for her second? Said he.—Woman, begone, I say, before I compel you hence with my foot.

I was now drove to the summit of desperation, and was almost grown helpless, through the terror of my apprehensions; and poor Mrs. *Vincent* was so conscious that my melancholy fate was almost spun to a crisis, that she seemed extremely loath to quit the room; till peremptorily commanding her once more to leave the cabin, I ran boldly to the door, lock'd it, and slipt the key into my pocket; when gathering more heart, she shall not stir, said I;---and now, what want you with me? Or what dare you presume against me? Sit still, said I, Mrs. *Vincent*: I desire not your help, but if this scoundrel meets his death at my hands in prosecution of any dishonourable attempt; only bear witness, that he gains it not undeservedly.

Insulting

Insulting virago ! said *Grainger*, think you to divert my purpose by your menaces !--- Then clasping his arms under mine, round my waist, and raising my head above his own, he turned about with me to the bed-room. Now learn to give abuse, says he, for the next time, when you are more your own mistress.

I had, during the struggle, been more intent upon my dagger, than in guarding my own person from his gripe ; and at the instant drawing it with my right hand, (as my arms, by the elevation of my position, were a good space above his own) I plunged it (as I thought) with great deliberation, between his collar-bone and neck, downright into his body ; when instantly dropping me from his arms, I am a dead man, said he, and turned pale as a ghost.

I still having fast hold of the dagger's haft, brought him down almost with his head to the floor, before I could unsheath it from his body.

Mrs. *Vincent* screamed out so loud, that she alarmed the whole crew, who were instantly collected at the cabin door ; but could gain no admittance ; till very coolly taking the key, I let them in, telling the captain, it was time he should have some regard for that base ravisher his owner.

Grainger was seated in a chair, with his elbow on his knees, groaning most bitterly. Madam, said the captain to me, pray, how happened this accident? Mr. *Grainger*, I replied, would inform him, should he ever attain the use of his senses.

Grainger, then extending his hand to the captain; fir, said the captain, you seem to be desperately wounded. --- Only a dead man, replied *Grainger*. — How came it, dear fir? said captain *Smith*. I'm to blame, said *Grainger*. — All's fair. — All's fair. By this time the surgeon being come, *Grainger* was carried to his bed, and his wound dressed.

I own, that I received far more concern from *Grainger's* generous manner of expressing his injury to the captain, than for the mischief itself; and was almost sorry that I had aimed at a death's wound, when I reflected, that a less dangerous one might have answered the purpose full as well; but in the heat of action, being desperately exasperated, I confess, that I aimed at his destruction.

After all was over, I sent Mrs. *Vincent*, (tho' not as from me) to enquire of the surgeon how he found his patient? And to tell him, as from herself, that she believed I would take it well, if he would wait upon me, and inform me. He accompanied

accompanied Mrs. *Vincent* back to me, and reported, that the point of the instrument, having grazed against the collar-bone, had from its oblique descent, passed only through the muscles which covered the left side of his ribs behind; and that the point had just made a passage through the skin, about ten inches below the collar; and that, barring accidents, it was not mortal: but that Mr. *Grainger* would be a long time before he would be perfectly himself again. Madam, added he, it is often of use, for the direction of a practiser in surgery, to be informed of the instrument the wound is made with.

The operator appearing to be a grave man, and seemingly the father of children, I made no scruple of producing the dagger; and, sir, said I, that you may not imagine this wound proceeded from any levity in my conduct, (for you are apprized that he received it from me) I must assure you, it was given merely in vindication of my own chastity, which he was on the point of violating, and was carrying me off in his arms for that purpose.—O! Mr. *Grainger*! Mr. *Grainger*! said he. But young men, madam, will be young men; perhaps another such jobb or two may reduce him to reflection.

We had had a long passage, as they told me; but were now near passing the streight for *Jamaica*:

when Mr. Grainger, being ashamed to land at *Port-Royal*, in the condition he then was, and under immediate exposure for the cause of it, gave the captain orders to sail for *Barbadoes*.

CHAP. VI.

Polly's reflections. Grainger's danger causes his repentance. Makes his will, Sues for Polly's pardon. Their reconciliation. Her reflections. Contracts for her voyage to England. Is stopt by Grainger. Reconciled again. Sails with him to Jamaica. Hires passage to England. Is trepan'd to Grainger's plantation.

IT is not to be imagined what were my conjectures, upon the alteration of our voyage; for I verily thought, that this new course was undertaken meerly to delay time, till Mr. Grainger being recovered, I should be made sensible of the severity of his resentment, in a more exemplary manner amongst his own creatures on board, than he would well dare to inflict it upon me by land: But Mrs. Vincent soon administred some comfort to me, by her assurance, that Mr. Grainger had a small plantation also at *Barbadoes*, where he intended

tended to stay till his wound should be perfectly cured, before he returned to *Jamaica*.

Tho' I have not as yet hinted at it, because I would not interrupt the thread of my narration; yet it is not to be conceived, that tho' I had been so many weeks absent from *England*, my mind should not be almost wholly there; for indeed, I believe, no poor wretch who had been ravished from his native soil, under condemnation to perpetual slavery, could possibly have laboured under more cruciating torments than I did; during the whole voyage. Now tho' the condition Mr. *Grainger* would have brought me to, might to a person disengaged in affection have been very agreeable, had he made but a tolerable husband; which from the professions he made to me, and which I can scarce think to have been insincere, it is possible he might; yet with me it was wholly otherwise; for his love to me was so much the more odious, by how much it had deprived me of the man alone, on whom I had settled an unalterable affection; it being no more in my power to desert my steady regard for *Tyrrell*, than it was in my inclination; nor was it possible, for all the gawdy grandeur proposed to me by the acceptance of Mr. *Grainger*, to be entertained by me with other prospect, than that of becoming the gayest of his slaves: so that content in this life is certainly not to be measured by abundance, even to superfluity; but by that

Portion, and that only, which the mind labours for; whether of wealth, pomp, or friendship: for where the object of the desire is absent, all other fruitions are vain.

How could I have rejoiced, would I often say, at being the mate of *Tyrrell*, tho' himself were but a slave to *Grainger*! rather than losing him, myself to command *Grainger*, his slaves, and all his substance! But is there no way of making my escape from him? Alas! I have once avoided his baseness, but it can prove only as a short reprieve, at best; my chastity, must stoop to his audacity, nor can he be destitute of aid for reducing me to his will: and then, having lost all that is worth a future struggle, I must be necessitated to lean to his measures for a support, wholly unworthy the notice of any other man.

Why has nature formed us thus amiable! made us treasures of her choicest graces! yet left us so destitute of power to secure them, that we are not only defenceless against outward violence, but even, for the most part, against meer frothy argument! But why do I reflect! See I not before the eyes of my imagination, (as in the most truly reflecting mirror) *Tyrrell*, the man of honour, worth, sincere affection, probity, and integrity; longing, panting, tormenting himself, with an ardour only to be equalled by my own! for what! Only for
wha

what he can receive from me, who am no whit less anxious for compleating his felicity, than my own! Nay, more so, beyond comparison. Then why this cursed intervention of *Grainger*, to render us both miserable, and that at his own expence too! No, the vile traitor shall never gain his ends of me; while I have strength left to wag a finger, I have a nail there, resolved on violence; for never shall my eyes behold the cursed instrument after my undoing.

Upon our arrival at *Barbadoes*, *Grainger* grew much worse than he had yet been; insomuch, that our surgeon was obliged to call in others to his assistance, who all gave it as their opinions, that his case was desperate; for that the dagger having passed behind the shoulder-blade, they were, from many symptoms, apprehensive of a foul bone.

This report, terrified *Grainger* almost out of his senses; the thoughts of death were such, as he could not tolerate, but with horror; nor could he die, he said, till he had made his peace with me; whom he now began to confess he had most iniquitously abused. He was so far from palliating his offence, or any part of it, that he daily more and more condemned himself for it, to every one who visited him; nay perceiving himself, as he imagined, to be very near his end, he made
his

his will, with all due ceremony (tho' I did not then know what were the contents of it). Then intreating it of me as a favour, that I would pay him one more visit before his death, I complied, as in christian charity I looked upon myself bound to do, to a repentant person, notwithstanding his former oppressions.

He was unable to rise, having for many days past been confined to his bed; and several persons who were about him offering to retire upon my approach, he desired them all to stay, and be witnesses to that forgiveness he was in hopes of obtaining from me. Then taking my hand, and placing it to his lips, he begg'd them all to take notice, that his approaching dissolution was intirely owing to his own rashness, in attempting to misuse the most deserving woman upon earth. He then further required them to remember, that he had acquitted me of every intention to his hurt, till constrained through his own obstinacy, to repel force by force. And now, said he, all that I shall further require of you is, to mark this lady's answers. Madam, continued he, can you pardon (a wretch who can no more be offensive to you) a crime, which my love, unbridled by my reason, precipitated me into? The lust of making you sure to me, I must confess, preponderated to every more prudent conviction; nor can I yet think I could have faced death in a more glorious

glorious enterprize, (had it but succeeded) than to have at length united your heart to mine : but all is now over, and I am only to implore your forgiveness.

I replied, that altho' the injuries he had done me (as himself was conscious) were irreparable ; yet, since he had so candidly acknowledged his errors, and seemed to suffer such compunction for them, I would forgive him ; and beg of Almighty God, to do the same : but then, said I, I require that you forthwith discharge me from your custody, and permit me to return to *England*, in a vessel now ready to sail thither. He assured me, that I should have my liberty, whenever I pleased ; but as to my so sudden return, he knew not how, readily, to come into that, till after his death or recovery : for that my constant visits to him, (if any thing) would prove the most coercive remedy for giving a kindly turn to his wound ; he verily believing, that his vitiated juices, created by his uneasy mind, had in great measure obstructed his cure ; but that now he was so happy as to have obtained not only my pardon, but my prayers, his conscience being at rest, he should still have hopes of himself ; and intreated me so earnestly for a few days stay, that I engaged to wait the event of his disorder, for one week longer.

He

He thanked me with great vehemence, assuring me, that since he had my word for not quitting the island for that time, he was content; and that no constraint should be laid upon my inclination, go where I would: then putting a paper into my hands, my dearest *Polly*, said he, this is my will; accept the sole recompence I shall ever be able to make you, for all the distresses I have subjected you to. I begin to feel myself faint with talking, and must compose a little; at which words, I left him.

It is amazing, in what an instant of time, the mind can shift its scene from detestation of an object, to compassion for it; and I must say, that I parted not from *Grainger* without tears of pity for him, imagining him to be past the execution of any further afflictive schemes.

I waited with impatience for my deliverance; but as times, and seasons, are not in our own power, so neither are our actions, views or designs. I was still reserved for further trial, tho' I knew it not; and happy for us it is, that we are only stung by sense of present ills: for could the train of succeeding actions, and sufferings, for the compass of our whole lives be exhibited to us at a view, upon the first irradiations of our minds for knowledge; what man is there, who
would

would not rather by one bold stroke dissolve his being, than stand the shock of a week's reflection on them: but the dark pages of the book of fate expanding singly, we are buoyed up with the hopes of gentle gales only, after each successive hurricane; nay, tho' again and again weather-beaten; yet injoying intervening serenity, each succeeding ruffle brings its hope of an ensuing calm, till the storms growing thicker and closer to each other, we are ejected from the light, e'er we have for any long duration enjoyed tranquility.

Mr. Grainger, at the end of three days from my visit, began sensibly to amend; and his wound becoming less painful, his surgeons were not without hopes of his recovery. The fifth, and sixth days, he arose, and was able to sit up several hours; in the evening of which last, he sent for me (as I apprehended) to take my farewell of him, before my embarkation; for I had actually agreed for my passage to *England*, and had promised to be on board in two or three days at furthest.

I paid my respects to him, as he was then sitting in his chair, and assured him, how glad I was to see him on the mending hand. We entered not into the debate of any former passages between us, as I judged they might be prejudicial to his health; but, at my departure, took my leave

leave of him (as I hoped and verily believed) for ever. He said, that he heartily wished me all future happiness in life, and as he was not able to rise from his chair to salute me, should take it for a favour, if, for once, I would condescend to the indecorum of paying him that compliment.

I own it went very much against the grain with me to do it; but the necessity of my advancing to him, if I permitted a salute at all, and the thoughts of its being the last, joined to the dread of exasperating his ill will against me, prevailed for a compliance; when taking me by the hand, and almost looking me through; Miss *Polly*, said he, will you leave me? Can you desert the man who adores you, to run the hazard of the seas, for so long a voyage by yourself? Perhaps you don't know, that my presence protected you from insults in your passage hither, from the ship's crew; and what think you will be the consequence of one single woman amongst so many fellows, with the combined temptation of the whole sex in her person? What may you not be compelled to suffer from their bestiality, which my love alone prompted me to pursue, tho' I confess, with too rapacious insolence. I would have you consider, that, tho' I part with you unspotted, Mr. *Tyrrell* must not expect to find you so. Cannot my further intreaties prevail for your stay? I will
marry

marry you instantly, you shall be the mistress of far more than Mr. Tyrrell can present you with; you shall have my whole estate, which I may be bold to say, will treble his; and all this at hand, without the danger of tempests, foundering at sea, capture by enemies, or other the least hazard whatsoever. Then, drawing me towards him, answer me my dearest Polly, said he, bless me with compliance.

I, in my turn, begg'd him to part with my hand, and then I would reply; which I did, as near as I can remember, in the following manner. I am sorry, Mr. Grainger, that you should have so misplaced your affections, as not possibly to be able to reap the fruits of your application, which I sincerely assure you, (myself being the object) you never can. We have it not in our powers any more to change our inclinations at will, than we can our features, stature, or complections; for could we so, it would be equally as easy for you to neglect me, as it is impossible for me, not to abhor you. Your person as a man, my fellow-creature, for the perfection of its outward appearance only, I should regard, in preference to most others that I have known; but your principles have so shocked me, that I can no longer view you, in your compound existence of body and mind, but as a disgrace to human nature; nor is it possible,
(according

(according to the nicest rules of comprehension that I can form to myself) for the least credit to be given to any member of our species, that he loves, nay adores (as you express yourself) that being, which the general tendency of all his actions contributes to render miserable. Therefore, Mr. *Grainger*, a little consideration would bring you to confess, that all this love, and adoration, with which you say you abound, has been paid to a mistaken shrine; it is yourself, all this while, that you have loved and adored; and that, to the degree of sacrificing my whole happiness to your divinity. I envy not your felicity; but let me cease from the misery of creating it.

I was in hopes I had fully apprized you of my mind before; but if not, I must assure you, that my resolutions are as constant and durable, as the heavens themselves; nor shall any artifice ever byas me to retract my purpose. I wish you well and happy, but give me leave to be so too.

I then took (as I thought) my farewell of him, and withdrew; resolving with myself, instantly to quit the house, and get on ship-board; least, after this frank declaration of my mind, he should repent him of my liberty, and again restrain me. I therefore only just stepped into my own room, and making up my bundle, which was but a very
small

small one, marched down-stairs ; but now, contrary to custom, and my expectation, I found the door lock'd, and the key gone. I required it to be open'd to me immediately, when the servant replied, that he was no less lock'd in than myself, and that the key was in the possession of his master.

This gave me the first suspicion, that I should be again impounded ; and almost wild I was with the thought of it. I ordered the fellow, from me, to demand the key of his master ; he went, and brought me word, that his master desired I would come for it myself. I did so, and having expostulated for some time, upon the cruelty of his unchristian usage to me, he replied, that mine to himself was infinitely more so ; but that not having spirits at present to argue the point with me, if I had any thing further to offer on that head, it must be at some other opportunity ; for he could not then bear talking.

I was so distress'd in my mind at this usage, that I flung from him, determined either to break open the door, or force my way through the windows ; but I had no sooner quitted his chamber, than I was hurried away to my own, by two black women, who were planted ready to surprize me ; where I was confined, without hope or prospect of escape, till my jaylor pleased to release me.

This

This disappointment of my expected return to *England*, in about nine weeks, as the captain had assured me we should perform it in, threw me into such a despondence, as terminated in a severe fit of sickness; insomuch, that I was now looked upon to be in a more dangerous way than Mr. *Grainger*; and the surgeons, who attended him, giving it, as their opinion, that I could not (without a miracle) recover from the low state I was in; *Grainger* sent me word, that having considered my case, I was now at liberty to depart, so soon as my health would permit me.

I was in so weak a condition, when I received this message, that I returned for answer; I believed it was too late for me now to have any hopes of ever seeing *England* again, and that I presumed, when he should behold me in my coffin, his tyranny would be at an end; but, till then, I should despair of it. This reply, as I afterwards heard, stung him to the quick; but having added to my answer, that during my short remains of life, it would be esteemed a favour, if he would permit Mrs. *Vincent* to attend me, (his own black servants being most disagreeable to me) it was scarce more than an hour before she came, and from that time, continued with me; for I had never seen her since we landed at *Barbadoes* till now, she having been sent

sent with the rest of the servants, to the plantation, about two miles from *Grainger's* house.

This last message of *Grainger's*, for licence to depart, had proved so gentle an emollient to those corrosives, which before prey'd upon my vitals, that the bare satisfaction, of conceiving it might but possibly prove a reality, effected, in about three weeks time, what all the physick in the world could not have performed ; for from that instant I daily, nay almost hourly, shewed visible tokens of amendment : so that Mr. *Grainger* recovering apace too, we were both ready for embarkation in about a month's time ; in which I having often seen him, we each talked of our separate voyages, without the least seeming dissatisfaction on either side.

It happened most unfortunately for me, (as I then imagined, tho' the event proved contrary) that no ship was expected to sail for *England* directly, in less than two months ; and this I presume Mr. *Grainger* was apprised of, tho' I was not ; and possibly might occasion his so steady complaisance to me, in regard to my departure ; but be that as it will, all things being ready for his voyage to *Jamaica*, he expressed how sorry he was, that I could not be accommodated with a vessel so soon as I desired ; and setting before me
several

several inconveniencies of my waiting so long where I was unknown to every one : He assured me, (tho' he left it intirely to my own choice) that was the case his own, he would sail in the ship with captain *Smith* to *Jamaica*, from whence vessels were departing every week, as the most expeditious method that could possibly be taken. That, as for his part, having deserted all hopes of my continuing with him, he was now only solicitous for my accommodation, in the safest and speediest manner, that myself could wish. He told me, that I might act as I pleased, he pretended to no influence over me ; but believed, that upon enquiry, I should find his advice the most salutary, and that captain *Smith* was to sail such a day.

It appeared very plainly to me, upon the nicest information that I could gain, that what he had delivered was very true ; and he leaving it intirely to my option, either to go or stay ; and having now not the least constraint put upon me, I was so firmly persuaded that he acted ingenuously with me, that I made no difficulty of accompanying him to *Jamaica* ; and during the whole voyage was treated by him with the most polite behaviour, even till I began to abate very much of the harsh rigour of my sentiments against him, and in due time, we landed safe at *Port-Royal*,

The

The day after our arrival, I sought out for the best intelligence that I could, when the first ship would be sailing for *England*, and met with a captain, who was to sail in about eight or ten days, which Mr. *Grainger* seemed mightily pleased with, and, in my hearing, gave several necessary orders for my accommodation on board, and for his deportment to me, during the voyage; nor seemed he to have any thing more seriously at heart, than to expedite my departure.

This generous behaviour, procured him my confidence very much; and for three or four of the first days, we visited together several of his acquaintance at *Port-Royal*, and in its neighbourhood; he had also laid in several stores for me during the voyage; nay, had wrote, and read over to me, a letter to Mr. *Giffard*, and another for Mr. *Tyrrell*, acknowledging his misconduct in blacker terms, than even themselves could have painted it; intreating their forgiveness, upon his repentant request. He also begged their acceptance of a small token of his sincerity, in a present which would accompany me, of such things as that country produced, and concluded, with most superlative encomiums on me. He consulted with me, both on the quantities and qualities of his present; all which, bore such an appearance of integrity in his designs, that I own I could entertain not the

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least

least scruple of his earnestness for making up the affair in *England*, and transmitting me thither, in the most acceptable manner too.

I have before said, that we had waited on several persons at *Port-Royal*; and his own coach being now arrived, (he having sent for that upon his first landing) we visited several others at greater distance; when the time for my going on board not being yet arrived; meerly (as he told me) to be out of idleness, he projected a trip to a little plantation he had let out to a tenant, where he would dine, receive his rent, and come back to our lodging in the evening; nay, he even bespoke what he would have for supper at our return, and appointed the hour for it to be ready at; but after about two hours driving, we were past all sight of the houses, or any thing like the other plantations; save that now and then, at a distance, we passed some negro's huts; nor were my inquiries satisfied with any thing farther, than that he could not have thought we should have been so long in going: but we should surely be there presently. At last we did arrive at an house where we stopt, and dined, and which I took for his tenant's, tho' I heard no talk of rent, or any thing else as between landlord and tenant; but I took little notice of that. We stayed about an hour and half, and then took our places in the coach again, in order for our return to *Port-Royal*, (as I verily thought)

but

but having travelled till 'dark night, at a good round pace; upon my alighting, I presently discovered, that we were then upon his own plantation.

C H A P. VII.

Polly's circumstances at Grainger's. Engages Vincent to share fortune with her. Meditate their escape. Engage two slaves in it. Sail into the ocean in a crazy vessel. Distressed for Provisions. Save a man and boy. They steer them to the coast of Florida. Dangers in their Passage. Taken Prisoners. Their Treatment.

THIS delusive scheme of Grainger's was no sooner ascertained to me, than giving up myself for lost, and my passion gaining the ascendant, I fell into a fit; and so from one to another, continuing in a succession of them for the whole night, I can give no account of myself, or any thing else, till the next day; when (my agitated spirits being a little subsided) I began to consider my own condition, and the state of things around me.

I now judged my situation to be far more dangerous than ever it had yet been; and did not doubt, (notwithstanding my resolutions to the contrary) but that I must be brought to a submission to such terms only, as my vicious jailor would please to impose upon me. My wailings were incessant, from the moment that I found myself betrayed; and the thoughts of my mamma, and Mr. Tyrrell, cut me to the very soul. How much better had it been for me, would I say to myself, never to have been led on with the expectation of a return to them, than when just upon the point of departure, to be cast back again into my former despondency, without hope, or prospect of redemption from this miserable captivity.

Never was any wretch so distracted as myself, when not a creature surrounded me, whose face I had ever before seen, save that of the footman, who travelled with us; and such a melancholy life I was entering upon, as filled my whole faculties with horror. I was waited upon in my apartment, by a maid servant, a black, whom he had appropriated to my use; but was no ways closely confined, or restrained to a particular limit; only that I soon perceived, my maid was to be my mistress, and that her business was, under the name of advice, to command me; and mine, under the shew of altering my opinion, to submit:

for

for she kept a strict eye over me wherever I went, or whatever about; nor did I once gain sight of Mr. Grainger, for the first fourteen days of my being there; but about that time, Mrs. Vincent arriving at the plantation with other the artificers, and their wives, I sent her to Mr. Grainger, for leave to resume her post about my person, with my request that the black maid might be discharged.

This, as whatever else I required by Mrs. Vincent, was complied with. We eat of the best of every thing, and mostly off of plate, or china-ware. We had plenty of the finest wines and fruits, both wet and dry; nor indeed could any one fare more deliciously than we did.

We might ramble where we would; had hundreds of men and women at our command; for whatsoever duties we set them upon; the coach waited our pleasure; nor could I even frame that possible wish, which the next instant would not gratifie, save that one, beyond all others, (and the want of which, deprived all others of their relish) liberty.

Mr. Grainger ordered me several of the most sumptuous suits of cloaths, in the *English* fashion, richly ornamented with gold and silver lace, and embroidery; many jewels, and in short, what

a queen of *England* need not have disdained to appear in publick in; and had I been but free at heart, surely no condition could have been more exquisitely delightful, or magnificent than mine might have been: but these toys, so very pleasing to our sex, were the more hateful to me; as I look'd upon them, only as the badges of my dependance, and bribes to ensnare me to my ruin.

At the first visit that Mr. *Grainger* paid me in his own house, he made abundance of apologies for bringing me thither, without previous notice; and but, that he had very little hopes of my compliance with it, he would have required my approbation of the journey. Again, he added, that as I was before, and must have remained, unapprized of his manner of living; that, could no where else have been demonstrated to me; and in conclusion, he again press'd my stay with him voluntarily; for that tho' for my sake, he heartily wish'd it had been otherwise, yet he was very sure, he could never more be induced to part with me.

I shall only add, that I ceased not from time to time, to upbraid him, for the prostitution of his word to me, without repeating any further arguments; and thus had my time worn away

away for about six months with him, neither party receding from their first declarations.

About this time, poor Mrs. *Vincent* lost her husband, which proved so afflictive a stroke to her, that she was not to be comforted; and she being a very deserving woman, and my true friend, I could not but share her misfortune; especially, as I was under inexpressible concern, least she should leave me; for her head ran wholly upon her return, to her acquaintance and relations in *England*.

I represented my condition to her, tho' she was equally apprized of it before; but with the addition of my fears, in case of her leaving the island without me: for that I verily believed, the presence of so grave and sensible a woman as herself, had hitherto deterred *Grainger* from his vile purposes, and begg'd her to remain with me, either till he should be wrought upon for my departure, or to assist and accompany me in my escape from him, which I had meditated, the very first opportunity that I could procure for accomplishing it: assuring her, that in case of success, she should never more leave me: for that I should have wherewithal in *England* for subsisting both myself and her, (should we ever be so happy as to arrive there) and that she should partake my fortune.

The good woman's grief for her husband by degrees abating, with it, also subsided, that pressing desire she had of immediate departure; and, at length, I brought her to a promise, never to desert me; but by every means in her power, to be assisting to our escape, the first opportunity that should present.

I had from time to time received abundance of presents from Mr. Grainger, which (tho' at first I had declined receiving any thing of that nature from him) ever since I had purposed an escape, I had deposited, not only as a readier means of effecting it, but as a necessary ingredient in procuring a subsistence, when that time should come.

I was no ways debarred the amusement of diverting myself amongst the slaves, while at their work; and this, Mrs. Vincent and I made our chief employment, during the cooler hours of the day. We had frequently observed amongst them, an elderly man, of a different complexion from the blacks, tho' far from a perfect white, having very black and long hair; but what he was the more remarkable to us for, was a perpetual gloom, that ever shaded his face, and an uneasiness in his mind, too apparent to be concealed. He had seldom spoke in our hearing, or if we asked

asked a question, answered more than yes or no to it.

After I had been full eight months in this country, without the least prospect of freeing myself from it, some extraordinary affairs of the island called Mr. Grainger to *Port-Royal*; and while matters were preparing for his journey, with all the pomp of a peer of *England*, Mrs. Vincent and I had attempted to sound the uneasiness of the slave, I just mentioned, in hopes, that the disquiet of his mind might have reduced him to a proper instrument for us to compleat our deliverance by, if he could but at the same time hope, thereby to recover his own freedom. We attacked him, by pitying his circumstances, and assuring him, that he appeared to us, as a man born to better fortune, than seemed to have fallen to his lot, at present.

He was then hoeing some sugar-canes, upon a little detached spot from the other slaves; when hearing us commiserate his case, he fetched a deep sigh, and told us, that truly we were in the right; for that he, who had once many vassals of his own, had but little thought of ever labouring like a beast, for an *English* master; but fortune had turned about, and he had only to submit.

I demanded, whether there was no such thing as procuring himself liberty, when once he was engaged in that employ? He answered, that where one succeeded, a score suffered the most cruelly devised torments for such an attempt: but he hoped, we did not start those questions to ensnare him. Mrs. *Vincent* assured him, that we did not; but that being ourselves prisoners to his master, and having determined our own escape, in his absence from the plantation, we had applied to him, as the most serious and understanding person amongst the slaves, to implore his assistance in furthering our design; intreating him, that if he should refuse us his help, at least that he would not betray us.

The man's eyes sparkled like fire, his countenance alter'd, he smiled, and asked us if we were seriously in earnest? We then, from many circumstances, made him sensible that we were; and were prepared for every risque with him for our liberties; but, replied he, if you are taken in the act you may escape punishment; and the having recovered your persons, will be my master's sufficient recompence: but as to myself, the enterprize is so dangerous, that the utmost severities will be too gentle for me, who shall on course be suspected for your seducer. No, no, you had better content yourselves as I do, to
rub

rub on under your misfortunes, till death shall set you free.

Perceiving that the suspected punishment was of sufficient terrour to him, to cause a frustration to our hopes, and that now I had once embarked there was no retraction ; least he should discover our design to the overseer, and then we should be secluded from all future prospects ; I resolved rather than not prevail, to make one bold push for it, which I thought would not fail me ; and that was, I gave him to understand who I was, and by what means I was forced thither ; the methods that had been employed to induce me to become his master's wife, and the little effect they had had ; most of which I was pleased to understand that he had before heard ; tho' he was ignorant that I was the person, who had been so much talked of. Now says I, if you will further our flight, all that is in your power ; in case we should happen to be surprized, I have a certain method of securing you from the punishment, you so much dread. He desired to know what that was ? For in proportion to the esteem his master had for me, he should apprehend his destiny would be the more severe, for aiming at depriving him of so valuable a property. No, replied I, he is but too sensible, from woful experience, that I never will be his property, through any solicitations of his own ;

own; but I am so bent upon this project, that I hereby solemnly declare to you, (rather than be diverted from prosecuting it) should we be taken, in order to make my terms for your safety, I will become his wife, upon such conditions only as you shall approve; and I think I may insist, that he, who has already been baffled so often by me, will not refuse me the life, or liberty of many slaves, as the price of my compliance with him.

What I then urged, carried such a face of probability with it, that pausing a while, may I rely upon this, said he, as truth? And will you comply? For if you are the lady, of whose constancy and resolution I have made such advantageous reports, I shall think myself reasonably safe with you. I promised him, both that I was the person, and that I would to a tittle preserve my faith with him. Well then, said he, let me see you to-morrow, when I will contrive it so as to have my son with me. He is young, and vigorous, and may be of infinite service to us, if he embraces the motion.

We met him and his son next day, nor had we need of many arguments to set our scheme on the run; for the young fellow's intrepidity elated him, beyond the dread of punishment; and he was so impatient for our elopement, that

Mr.

(Mr. Grainger being to depart the ensuing morning) we appointed a rendezvous for the night following, at a place which they told us would be the properest of any to set out from.

Mrs. Vincent and I took all the money, and light curiosities I had with us, and met them according to time and place; but before morning, I had almost repented my undertaking, tho' then, there was no return; for the men's fears urging them forward at all hazards, with their best speed, we two women, were kept all night on the strain, till day-light; when if the travel of another mile would have saved our lives, we could not have performed it; being entirely unable to set one foot before another.

We were in a vast cover of bushes and trees, in one of the closest of whose recesses we laid ourselves down for rest, and slept about eight hours, as on the most delightful down in the world; then rising, and again finding the use of our limbs, we proceeded in the night, still resting in the day-time, till we came to a great river; here we pitch'd again, and the old man sent his son up it, to enquire if any small vessel could be hired for the *Havannah*; for Mrs. Vincent and I being well dressed, purposed to conduct ourselves as the mistresses of the slaves, in order to pass the less suspected.

We

We here got some fresh water and fruits ; but remained in vast suspense for the young fellow's return. He came to us about sun-rise in the morning ; but there was nothing to be met with for our purpose, nor any craft at all upon the river, save a small single masted vessel, to which he believed no body belong'd ; for he was afraid to go near to any plantation-house, there being some at a distance, to the right-hand of him.

It was to little purpose to stay where we were ; so that we resolved to descend to the vessel, pay the freight if any owner appeared, or otherwise to commit ourselves to the water in it ; for the island grew intolerable uneasy to us.

We arrived at the vessel in the evening and it lying near shore, the men took each of them one of us upon their shoulders, and put us on board ; then slipping the cable, they waited till the tide set her afloat, when assisting to shove her off, we let her drive with the tide, and soon after day-light found ourselves discharged of the river, and in the main sea : but never had either of us before beheld so glorious a morning, as that which brought us our freedom with it ; hoping soon to be at such a distance, as not to be descried from land.

We

We sailed with great glee for the first day and night, the transports of our release having absorbed every other care; but by this time, being in the ocean, wholly unknown to us, and nothing on board to satisfy the cravings of a keen appetite, we began to be not a little startled; for the few fruits which we had brought in our pockets were now consumed. We searched the vessel fore and aft, but without the least sign of any eatable, or even a sip of water, which alone, would have proved a great refreshment.

Our prospect was now so dark and melancholy, that we were overwhelmed with despair, and heartily repented of so mad an undertaking.

Our tackling, the more we examined it, the wretchered state we found it in; and our sail was so rotten, that it would scarce sustain the slightest puff of wind, or even its own weight. *Mrs. Vincent* and I were the best sailors of our crew; for the two men, tho' they had assured us that no two could out row either of them, yet they had never seen the management of a masted vessel, having been mostly under hatches in their voyage from their own country.

Mrs. Vincent having been much more versed in the tackling than I had, by having often frequent-
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ed the deck, she undertook the direction of the sail, in order to keep the vessel to the wind; for before that, we were at every little gust in danger of oversetting. We now happening to have some rain, immediately stopt every out-let, and by that means supplied ourselves with some moisture from the draining of the dirty deck, and by scooping up every remaining drop into an iron pot that we found on board, preserved about two quarts more for future service. On the fourth day, we were very near famishing for want of sustenance, when one of the men, whom I shall hereafter call by their proper names, that of the father being *Yokamy*, and the son's *Zashly*; this latter, I say, prying into every dark recess, quite at the bottom of the vessel, found some weeds growing in the earth and stones, which served for its ballast, the stalks of which, tho' weak and sickly, seemed yet no indelicacy to his hunger-press'd appetite: He gathered a large handful, and brought them on deck to us, who, without more questions, devoured them as the most precious morsel, and we all immediately followed him down for a recruit; when to our infinite joy, upon plucking up more of them, we by accident drew up a yaum, or potatoe. This was a present for a prince, had he been in our condition, and set us more eagerly to work for further discovery; when on raking up the dirt, and turning it over with our hands, by hard labour, we procured not only a sufficient present supply, but about half a bushel more.

more for a reserve; nor were we destitute of hope, for still obtaining a larger quantity, upon a deeper and more accurate scrutiny.

This piece of good fortune elevated our hopes exceedingly, and we sailed now with far better heart, in prospect of soon descrying some land or other; but we had no peculiar point in view, not having the least knowledge whereabouts we were. One morning, after several days sailing, we beheld (as we imagined) something black at a distance before us, just in the way of our vessel, which, as we approached nearer to, we apprehended to be a boat broke loose from some ship; but upon still nearer view, we suspected that we saw somewhat wave about in it.

Our guilty consciences immediately represented it as an advice boat, sent in pursuit of us; and had we been capable, we would for that reason have avoided it; but before we could bring our tackle to bear for escaping it, (tho' had we but considered at all, it was no ways capable of annoying us, being so small that we might have run over and sunk it) we were advanced within pistol shot of it, where we found a man and boy, both almost perishing with hunger. They implored our compassion to them, and intreated us to take them on board, or they must be lost; for that they had dropped one of their oars, had no sail,

fail, and had been helplessly driving about many days, without the least prospect of relief.

We having so little provision for ourselves, *Zashly* was against admitting them, lest the addition of two mouths should render our own case the more deplorable: but neither myself, or Mrs. *Vincent*, could turn our backs to so great calamity, as they seemed to labour with, and with much ado, we prevailed for their admission; when by the tenderest means then in our powers, we in a day or two recovered them, so as to be able to walk the deck; tying their boat to the stern of our little ship.

The stranger was a sensible man, and knew far more of navigation than either of us; he soon informed us whereabouts we were, and inquired whitherto we were sailing? We then opened our case to him, and the method of our escape; and *Yokamy* informing him, that he was of a settlement of *Indians* on the north of the river *Oubache*, begged him to steer the vessel to the nearest land to that river.

The stranger perfectly knew the situation of it, but told us we should never be able to reach the settlement; for that the land nearest us, was the coast of *Florida*, where we should have a vast region to pass over, e'er we attained that country:

I then

I then put in a word for myself; for I cared not where *Yokamy's* dwelling was, and the less for the prospect of those difficulties we must encounter to come at it; but desired to be informed, which was the nearest way to any of the *English* settlements, save *Jamaica*?

While the stranger (who had by this time informed us, that his name was *Parish*) was considering of my request, *Yokamy* told me, that surely I could not imagine, he and his son would be conveyed to any *English* or *Spanish* settlement to be made slaves of again; for that now he was once clear of *Jamaica*, he was resolved to attain his own native country, or perish in the endeavour.

I now too late discovered, that we had but fallen upon *Scylla* in avoiding *Charibdis*; and that I was (most probably) only fled from one captivity to another, worse perhaps than the first, and told *Mrs. Vincent* so. O Madam, said she, we must submit, *Yokamy* you perceive is resolute, nor can I blame his having more regard for himself, than for us, we are embarked with him, and must run his fortune.

I endeavoured to prevail on *Yokamy* to follow me to some *English* settlement, at as great a distance from *Jamaica* as he pleased; assuring him, and
Zaphly,

Zaphy, that I would take them to *England* with me; where every man was a freeman, and that I would provide for them wholly independent on me; but it was to no manner of purpose, for he swore, that if *Parish* did not land him on the coast of *Florida*, he would cut his throat.

I was compelled into the virtue of submission, upon finding him so resolute, and seemingly complied with him; but then, that I might discover as well as I could, what I should have to trust to, I enquired into the situation of his country, their laws, manners, and customs; what distance it was from the sea, and what *European* nations were near him. He replied, that a great way to the eastward there were several *European* settlements, naming *Virginia* and *Maryland*, both which I had heard of; and upon that account, expressed less reluctance at pursuing his scheme; and finding it must be so, *Mrs. Vincent* and I joined heartily in pushing for the coast of *Florida*.

We had very good weather, and a tolerable quick passage; but were obliged to confine ourselves to a very spare diet; nor had *Parish* the least instrument (not so much as a compass) to guide himself by, but wholly regulated his course by the sun and stars. Our provision had ceased before we had obtained sight of land, nor had we ever lived to reach it, but for a ship outward bound from *Achusi*,

Achusi, which hearing of our deplorable condition, spared us a large cask of water, and a sack and half of *Maize*, which supplied us comfortably, 'till we arrived at the mouth of the river of the *Holy Ghost*; when *Parish*, having given us some account of the coast, would have set us on shore, we having promised him the vessel for his trouble, in conducting us safe thither.

Yokamy observing that the river, by following its course, would probably lead us nearer to his home, and not greatly choosing so tedious a journey, as he apprehended we must have all the way by land, insisted that *Parish* should sail up the river with us, as far as the ship would go, before we landed; and as he and his son were at the head of our little commonwealth, there was no contending with their commands. But two or three days time demonstrated to us, that if we meant to proceed we must quit the vessel; for the river narrowing prodigiously, we were obliged to betake ourselves only to the boat, which we cleaned up as well as we could, and with two thirds of the remaining provisions made the best of our way forwards, leaving *Parish* and his boy in full possession of our vessel.

We were a full month upon this river, before I could persuade *Yokamy* to leave the boat, and betake himself to his feet; nor were we exempt from

from most intolerable difficulties by the way; for in the narrower parts of the river, where the stream ran swiftest, we were obliged to tow the boat, by a line we had taken from the vessel. Then we had but one oar, and that the clumsiest thing that ever was seen, which being useless to us in its proper sphere, we employed as a pole to shove us along with; nor was this all our difficulty, for we were sometimes obliged to draw the boat a considerable way upon the land, where the channel (being narrowest) by the stoppage of timber, lightwood, and dirt cemented, had formed cataracts; and at last, it was a million to a mite, but we had all been drowned; for having launched our boat rather too near to the upper side of a cataract, and endeavouring to push along as we were used to do, up the stream; we had no sooner parted with the shore, then the boat, falling into the suction of the current, was irresistibly drawn down the precipice of the water-fall, with incredible violence: and in its precipitate flight, pitching its head foremost into the stream at bottom, not only sunk itself, but threw us all out, some one way, some another. Mrs. *Vincent* and I, in the shock, caught hold of each other's cloaths, and by the meekest providence imaginable, being thrown to the out edge of the cascade; in our rising again, she grasped hold of the branches of a sort of willow, whose twigs hung drooping down to the very surface of the water, and even within it,
which

which gave me an opportunity of hanging about her neck, and just preserving my head above water: but the twigs being so slender, we were every moment in fear of her hold breaking, in which case, (the water running against us with vast impetuosity) we must inevitably have perished: till gathering a number of these twigs into her hand at once, their combined strength, preserved us so long, that *Yokamy* and his son, who could swim like fish, were by this time come up to our succour, and drew us both on shore.

We then began to look out for the boat, and from not being able to see it any where, judged that it must be sunk, and would rise no more; but after further search, we beheld it bottom upwards, at a great distance down the stream. *Yokamy* would have sent *Zashly* after it, had I not pleaded very strongly against such an undertaking; for I told him, that we had already lost as much time by towing it, and removing it from place to place by land, as well managed, would have carried us to his country. And again, that tho' we should now become masters of it, the few tools we had in it, and the oar would be all lost to us, and then the hulk would become but an useless burthen, and so far from a benefit, that it might possibly, on some such occasion as the last, only prove our ruin. Thus, through much argument, I persuaded him to give over all further thoughts
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of it, and to set about our journey with spirit ; taking the course of the river for our guide.

We had travelled above another month, following the course of the river ; but were forced to look out sharp for daily food by the way ; when *Yokamy* imagined, that he was arrived within his own knowledge, being satisfied, he remembered something of the place he was in ; for he was sure, by certain tokens, that he had seen it before, tho' he could not recollect its site, with respect to his own dwelling ; till consulting with *Zashly*, and upon the sight of several human bones, dispersed here and there, they both agreed, that they were then in *Olocampo's* country, where the battle was fought, wherein they were taken prisoners before they were sold into slavery.

This point was no sooner adjusted between them, than they expressed themselves in the most sorrowful accents to me and Mrs. *Vincent*. What should they do, should they be surprized before they got into their own territories, naked and unarmed as they then were ! They magnified the strength and vigour of their enemies, and every specimen they produced of their valour, seemed to sink somewhat of their own capacity for resistance : but what was still worst of all was, that they were ignorant which way to pursue, for attainment of their own homes.

Mrs.

Mrs. *Vincent* and I were wholly passive in these debates between father and son; for we knew no more of the one nation than of the other, save that we had reason to expect the most favourable treatment, from those of *Yokamy's* settlement, through his and his son's interposition. Thus we marched for a few days, in the utmost perplexity; for what would become of us, in case we should fall into the enemies hands.

We passed an high mountain, and descended into a plain, having well loaded ourselves with fruits of several sorts in our descent. We then crossed a ford, at about the depth of our knees, and entered into an inclosed country, where having lodged that night, we set out the next morning under the cover of a large wood; but, before noon, just as we were discharging ourselves of the trees, we fell under the observation of a party of about sixty men, armed with bows and arrows. We would fain have retreated to the woods again; nay, *Yokamy* and his son had actually done so; but the strangers making a stand, and facing us with their weapons ready prepared, Mrs. *Vincent* and I fell upon our knees, holding up our hands, and begging for quarter.

The strangers immediately dropt their arms, and about twenty of them ran after *Yokamy* and

his son, whilst the rest of them came gently forward towards us. They asked us several questions, which, by reason of our long familiarity with *Yokamy*, we were readily enabled to answer, to their satisfaction. Then entreating them, as we were women, and submitted to them, not to deal roughly with us, they replied, that we were in perfect security with them, and that we should go to their town; for that their king, (tho' I think the word they made use of rather signified commander, or leader) would be very glad to see us.

We acquiesced, tho' we had much rather have been excused from that attendance; but, as it was not then a time for disputing, we arose from our knees, and followed them, in hopes every minute of seeing *Yokamy* and his son at our heels, expecting from him directions for our behaviour; but we never saw either of them afterwards, nor did the party, who went in pursuit of them, overtake us again.

It was the third day after e'er we arrived at their town, and indeed a very populous place it was, and of great extent, with many large, but low buildings in it. We were conducted to an apartment at some distance from their king's palace, and victuals of divers sorts set before us, and were locked into a very long, but low room,

room, divided off at the farther end by a partition of plaited flags, behind which there stood some what like a bed, for us to repose on.

CH A P. VIII.

Polly's reflections on her situation. The King and Prince visit them. Arguments on that interview. King and Prince's second visit. King's speech to Vincent. Prince's conference with Polly. She refuses him marriage. Vincent persuades to it.

A State of absolute uncertainty is one of the most disagreeable situations that mankind can be cast into; and especially, as our condition could at best afford us no great matters, whereon to raise the least comfortable hope; so fear, with the more facility, took possession of us.

We had no room to find fault with the particulars of our entertainment, nor for that we were locked into our apartment; for by the croud that throng'd us to it, we were apprehensive, that being thus confined we should avoid those insults, which the lower class of people might have

offered us ; they being perfectly ripe for it ; had not our guard protected us, as we first entered the town : but the uncertainty of what was hereafter to become of us, and the little prospect we had of ever arriving in *England* again, so sunk our spirits, that I most sincerely prayed for my dissolution : and it was a great part of my daily petitions, that providence would remove me from the irksome condition I was then in, by freeing me from a life, which could only, according to the best of my comprehension, be protracted in misery ; it being impossible for me ever to be happy, save by that only means, which, of all other, my warmest apprehensions could only object the impracticability of ever attaining to : for should Mr. *Tyrrell* love me with sufficient passion to bring him after me, it would be impossible, since my leaving *Jamaica*, for him to know what was become of me ; nor was it a whit more possible for me, to give him the least information of it, as I was shut up in an inland unknown country, wholly disengaged from all commercial traffick, with the *European* colonies.

I then thought, that tho' his opinion of my virtue were ever so prevalent before I left him, it would be impossible for him to conceive, that neither fraud, or force, had gained the ascendant over it, by this time, in the different hands that I had been in.

How

How far better for me had it been, would I often say, to have remained still at *Jamaica*! Subject, since it seemed to be so preordained, to the will of Mr. *Grainger*! He was of my own country by extraction, was nominally a christian, and tho', through too prevalent a passion for me, he had engaged in transactions derogatory to that character; yet it would have been preferable settling with him, than in a land of darkness and heathenism, where I now am. From *Jamaica*, I might (by some possible turn of fate) have reached *England*; but from hence, there is no redemption, no hope, no prospect. I am here, as in another world, and must pass the remaining dregs of life in contempt and ignominy.

These, and such like, were my thoughts and expressions to poor *Vincent*, whose pardon I daily begg'd, for leading her, (by my intreaties) into such inextricable difficulties; and I must needs say, that but for her society and advice, I believe, my despair would never have permitted me to have lived one quarter of the time that I had done; for I could many a time have sat down and wept myself contentedly to death, but for her comfortable encouragement.

Mrs. *Vincent* was as lively a woman, and one of as good natural parts and capacity, as I had almost ever met with; had a vast flow of spirits, was of a sanguine complexion, and in every regard highly agreeable, and about thirty-four years of age. She never laid any of our disappointments to heart, but turned every misfortune that befel us to some cheerful use or other.

We had not sustained this confinement many days, before one morning, about sun-rising, we beheld through the lattice windows of our apartment a great multitude of people flocking to our lodging; and, as upon their nearer approach, they became more distinguishable by us, we discovered two of them, in particular, to be ornamented in linnen vestments, with several strings, of a sort of beads, hanging pendant from their necks, bracelets on their arms and legs, and caps on their heads, adorned with feathers; and from the rest of the company (who had most of them bows, lances, or sticks in their hands) keeping aloof from these two, we imagined them to be the kings, or principal men of the country.

The archers all ranging to the right and left, made a lane for these grandees to enter our apartment by; then hearing the door open, we retired

tired behind the mat, almost dead with fear, at conjecturing what this parade should portend ; But we had little time for reflection, before some olive coloured emissaries entering to us, ordered us to appear, and cast ourselves at the feet of the king, and prince his son.

We obeyed the summons with trembling ; tho' truly, for a sovereign monarch, and in such a strange country as we were then in, and in so awful an assembly, methought, their countenances bore not half that terror in them, nor were their behaviours so rough and unpolished, as I expected they would have been. They both looked pleasantly upon us, while we were prostrate before them, nor durst we to speak a word, till we had first been spoken to by them ; and I perceived afterwards, that his majesty had kept the longer silence, for that he did not apprehend we could have understood him, but by an interpreter.

At length, the king demanding of what nation we were ? And I readily answering him, *English* ; he shewed much satisfaction, at the thoughts of our being able to converse with him ; and lifting me from the ground, as his son *Jonko* did Mrs. *Vincent*, and both saluting of us, he bid us be of good chear, for that no harm should befall us ; then having further satisfied himself of several other particulars which he demanded

of us, he gave orders for our safe custody; that all care should be taken of us, and myself called, and in all respects treated as his queen. Then ordering a select number of servants, not less than twelve, to our particular service, he gave directions for habiting us in his country fashion, and retired.

We presently found our circumstances, as to the outward comforts of life, exceedingly alter'd, from what they had been since leaving *Jamaica*; but still our inward cravings after the one thing unattainable, imbittered every present-
ing joy, and rendered life scarce supportable.

We had not passed a great many more days in our new lodgings, before we had contracted an intimacy with one of our waiting women, who seemed of a much more ingenuous turn of disposition than the rest; for which reason, we retained her more immediately about our persons, while the rest were busied about the other occupations of the family; and from her, after some few weeks residence there, we inquired, what in her opinion was to become of us? And why we had such extraordinary respects shewn to us?

The young woman made but little hesitation at gratifying us, to the best of her ability, by replying, that she heard we were to be wives to the
king

king and his son, for that his majesty's late wife, the prince's mother, was an *English* woman, taken in his wars with a neighbouring nation; that his majesty was, on her account, a great friend to the *English*, and if we had not arrived as we did, he was about sending an embassy to *Virginia*, to procure him a wife from thence.

We said nothing further to *Inichsitmet*, (for that was our maid's name) at that time; but no sooner were we alone, than I lamented my hard fate, that should first separate me from the christian world, and then (if what I had heard proved a reality) ingraft me into a tribe of infidels; for I absolutely despaired of preserving myself from one of their beds, either as a wife, or in a worse capacity.

Mrs. *Vincent*, in her pleasant way, schooled me heartily for my simplicity; wond'ring, she said, that I should force uneasiness upon myself, right or wrong. As for her part, she said, she began to look upwards, in hopes of ranking the second lady in the kingdom; for tho' she supposed I should on course be my majesty, (the king having already commanded me to be so called) yet she did not despair of being her highness, in proper time: and, my dear, said she, think you not that sounds far better, than *Jack Vincent* the carpenter's widow? I'll assure you, madam, I judge it no mean honour

that we are arriving at, nor will you imagine, that yourself have made an infelicitous change, from Mr. Tyrrell's lady, to her majesty queen *Mary*, consort of the most mighty king *Quanhanckshaid*.

My heart was rather too full, pleasurably to receive her raillery, which she being no stranger to; dear, miss *Polly*, said she, what benefit have we hitherto gained by any one moment of our inquietude? Is it not better, since fortune will take her own course, to sport ourselves with such fate as we can't change, than to let that change us? Could we but think ourselves happy people, (and really it is our own faults that we can't, for numberless others who enjoy not half the benefits in life that we do, are so). What further can we crave to make us such? Then why should we not rather look with a pleasing eye on all that befalls us, than with a sullen one; and taking all that happens to be for the best, in what delight might we then enjoy ourselves, to what we now do? In short, I would not be whore to either father or son; but should one of them demand me for a wife, I'll not say him nay. I shall live as well as the country can afford, and what could I do more was I queen of *England*? Our happiness is but comparative; customs, and fashions vary, in different nations; the *Spaniard* looks haughtily down on other kingdom's meanness; they look as meanly upon his assumed grandeur; it is therefore not the country
we

we are in, but the pleasure we take in it, that brings content.

I could not disallow Mrs. *Vincent's* arguments; but the sorrow I had abandoned myself to, for my involuntary separation from Mr. *Tyrrell*, was become so habitual to me, that it was impossible for her lectures to remove it.

One morning, *Inichsitmet* came running to us, O my dear ladies! said she, you are both about to be extremely happy. How so? said I. Why all the differences at court are made up, said she, between the king and his son, and they will both pay you a visit presently. Pray, *Inichsitmet*, said I, what differences have subsisted between them? They seemed to be very good friends, when we were honoured with their last visit. She replied, that living altogether with us, she had not been informed of them till just now, by the messenger sent to order her to dress us, proper for the two prince's reception; but added, that the quarrel was about us. As how? said I. What can we have done to offend either of them? No, no, said she, you have not offended them; but the prince took it ill of his father, that he should make choice of you, madam, for his wife, when the prince himself had fixed his heart upon you, as the youngest person, and most suitable to his years and inclination.

I was ready to die at the sound of her report, and turned pale as ashes; which Mrs. *Vincent* observing, in order to reinforce my spirits; did not I tell you, my dear, said she, in *English*, what fortune had in store for us; and if your present dejection arises from the prospect of my preference, give me the prince, and I'll resign my title of majesty to you, with all my heart.

Dear *Vincent*, said I, how can you make light of so serious a subject? For my part, I could with more delight embrace my funeral pile, whilst myself fired it under me, than engage in wedlock with either of them.---Fancy him but *Tyrrell*, my dear, said she, and it will be the same thing. I could have killed her for her drollery, having never been half so vexed with her before; but whilst I was with some vehemence about to reply, came *Inichsitmet*, with a new painted robe for me to put on, of almost every colour in the rainbow. She desired us both to be prepared, before *Quanhanksbaid's* arrival, or the neglect would be imputed to her.

She dressed us to her own liking; for as to my part, I was hitherto wholly passive; my mind was so occupied elsewhere, that I could regard my finery in no other light, than as my winding-sheet; and happy should I have esteemed myself, had I
been

been rather conducting to my grave, than my
bridal bed.

The princes being arrived and seated, we were
brought forth by the proper officers, from behind
the mat, into their presence; not only their guards
and attendants being ranged all round us, but the
multitude of their followers filling all the lower
area of the room, which was a very large one.

The princes arose at our entry; when the king
taking Mrs. *Vincent* by the hand, and saluting her:
Great princess, said he, you are this day called
to the embraces of a mighty monarch, whose heart
your charms have inflamed. I have ever been
a friend to your nation, my first wife was of your
country, and from the love I bear to her memory,
I have resolved never to take a queen of any
other race of people. It is not, for that my own
and the neighbouring states abound not with
beauties meet for the arms of the most potent
sovereigns, that I now apply myself to you, an
alien, and foreigner; but for the truly noble
qualities inherent in you, *English* women, whose
endowments are preferable to all the world be-
sides.

I am apprized, that your excellent virtues will
not permit you to unite yourself to me, in the
temple of my gods; my late queen's, my *Con-*
stantia's

stantia's would not suffer it; but you, as she did, must comply with me so far, as only to pass through his temple, that I may shew him the adorable lady I have chosen for my bride; after which, our nuptials shall be performed at my palace, in a way most agreeable to you.

No sooner had his majesty concluded his speech, than prince *Jonko* began to lavish forth his compliments on me; but in quite another strain: for whereas the king, in his address, had express'd more of the monarch than the lover; the prince, departing from the dignity of his station, even condescended to become my humble adorer, and placed all the merit of his suit, to the favourable light I should behold his unworthiness in; for that the beauty and worth, which shone so superlatively in me, must only be bestowed from my own free grace upon the receiver, it being out of the power of mortal man to deserve it; and then concluded with his request, that his nuptials with me might be accomplished at the same time, and with the same ceremonies, as those of his father with the other lady.

How Mrs. *Vincent* might receive his majesty's favours, I knew not; but those of prince *Jonko* to myself, drew a flood of tears from my eyes, and cast my person at his feet; where embracing his knees: most mighty monarch, said I, looking

ing at the king, and you puissant prince, turning to him ; after my humblest acknowledgments, for the most eminent dignity intended me that this earth hath to dispose of, in the love and favour of so amiable a prince ; to me, I say, worthy only of the meanest offices under your command ; let me implore your favourable ear, for a few words only.

You have now before you, great sir, one of the unhappiest wretches that ever drew breath ; trepan'd from my native soil by the base insinuations of a vile deceiver. I was contracted in my own country to a lover, in whom my soul delighted, and still delights ; nor can his idea, I fear ever quit my breast. He is ever present before my eyes, as I imagine, to chastise the least breach of the vows I have made him. My heart hath never yet been so obdurate, as but in thought, to violate my engagement to him ; nay, it would be instant death to me, so suddenly to attempt it. Could your highness therefore but exercise the love you have profess'd to honour me with, in compassion for its undeserving object, how happy should I be, devoting the remains of life to prayer, for your highness's prosperity.

Fairest excellence, said the prince, from my soul I pity you ; but we are to consider your present reluctance, as the natural effect of that melancholy

lancholy, which must have been your attendant for so great a loss; and to the want of the delights of a court, to withdraw your mind from too constant an attention to one sole object. I admire your virtues at a higher rate, for their susceptibility of grief, for their absent admirer; but you are to know, that we have no room for the indulgence of reflecting melancholy here. Our time will be too precious. New scenes of delight will be daily rolling in upon you. New treasures of blessings shall pour forth their stores to encircle you around, so close, that not the least gloom shall gain admittance. The earth, the air, the water, shall all contribute to your pastimes, and the kindly influence of the heavens, by their propitious guidance, shall add health and constitution, for the enjoyment of all the rest. Numbers of smiling infants shall further crown your felicity, and wean you from every erring suggestion, in prejudice to their father. In short, my princess, thou shalt become the mother of emperors.

I was almost at a loss, for somewhat to urge against such unmerited goodness, and affection, as the prince had favoured me with: but what I aimed at was, a delay. As to his person, tho' not so fair as the *English* in general; yet it was so unexceptionable, that a more comely or majestick lived not. As to his love himself had put it

it past all contradiction; but delay being what my sole hope was grounded upon, I assured him, that I could not think of outwardly becoming his, but from the heart only; and that as it would be impossible to dislodge the prejudices I had so long imbibed in favour of the only man, whom I had hitherto regarded; but by such slow degrees, and in the mean time establishing such principles in his [the prince's] favour, as I might never depart from; I only begg'd, that he would allow me some reasonable time for surmounting those difficulties, and discharging myself of my vow, (without which I could never hope for any future comfort) and then, those obstructions removed, I should esteem my submission to his commands, my chiefest glory.

The prince, who had all this while kept painful silence, replied, that altho' what I required of him, would occasion a delay of that happiness he had so anxiously sought after, and highly prized; yet, provided I required not too many days consideration, he would postpone every private regard of his own, to my gratification.

I very submissively thanked him, acknowledging it as the supremest testimony of his affection for me; and that nothing might possibly intervene to interrupt our promised felicity, when it might be too late to alter or avoid it; I entreated

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ed only that he would allow me twelve months to conquer my scruples in, by which time, I, was in hopes, I should be able to make him every return, that either his inclinations should demand, or a grateful heart could abound with.

He started at the proposal, (as indeed I could not but expect he would) ask me an age, said he, I might as soon comply. What? Consent to an abstinence from so divine a creature, (knowing her to be mine) for a whole year? I cannot endure my very being under so long a separation. He would suffer under the lingering tortures of a month, he said, tho' that would be equal to the pangs of death to him, but no longer.

I still pleaded in the former strain, my first love, its fixture, and the desire of delivering my heart to him, wholly unattached to any other object that might but leave the least tully upon the sacrifice I would make of it to himself, with so much earnestness; at the same time declaring, how distress'd it would render me, if, after my union with him, I should but be involuntarily obliged to cast a single sigh, or the least thought after what my heart had before so much coveted; that at last, with great difficulty, I brought him to three months; when observing his eyes to pierce

pierce through to my very soul, as seeming wholly compounded of love, in several forms and expressions, I made one bold effort more. O, my lord ! Said I, were it not for compleating your own happiness with me, I should not contend for a moment's delay in becoming yours. The honour of such an alliance is too conspicuous for any one to imagine I should ; but that our desires for each other may still be more lasting, O ! Testify your affection to your prostrate slave, by conceding to me six months, and then I shall have no further objection.

What can I deny to thee, fair pleader ! Said he, to whose petition I would yield up my life ; but remember, he that grants you this, hath nothing that could distress him more, but the privation of you for ever ; and now, vow to me, that the time elapsed, you will affect no further delay. I did so, and at the same time, took upon me to presume, to require his vow, not to call upon me till the six months were expired, (for I dreaded that the most of any thing) which he having readily complied with, the king and he arose, leaving Mrs. Vincent and myself in expectation of their return in the morning, for the celebration of her espousals.

Mrs. Vincent had already established in her mind a thorough submission to the king's will ; and waited

waited the ceremony with a good grace: for tho the king was at least a dozen years older than he; he was a most lively stout personage, and of a robust constitution. She blamed me exceedingly for shewing such repugnance to the prince's request, alledging the improbability of our ever being discharged from that country, and that as it had fallen to our lot to be fixt there, why should we not, abstractedly from every contrary consideration, render our lives as happy to ourselves, as possible?

She begged me to consider with myself, that I had now been absent from *England* near two whole years; and undoubtedly, says she, Mr. *Tyrrell*, never expecting to see you more, is either himself married to some other lady, or at least would be well pleased that you were disposed of to the best advantage, wherever you are; so that really, you are suffering a substantial torment, for an imaginary cause; only for fear Mr. *Tyrrell* should still hope to make you his wife: which notion, how groundless it is, a trifle of reflection will indicate. Men are not such foolish creatures as we are, child, to retain their constancy beyond all probability: if one won't, another will; it is the esteem we have for ourselves, that makes us imagine they love us better than they do, and believing so, we return it with the same faith and constancy, as if our supposals were real. Come, come, let me prevail upon you, with a smiling countenance,

countenance, not only to give the prince your hand to morrow, but your heart too? How noble, how generous a boon will it prove, flowing of your own motion, so unexpectedly to him? Will it not add such force to his passion, as will compel him to eternal truth to you?

Mrs. *Vincent* hoped, that this speech would have clenched all; but after I had passionately reprimanded her for her distrust of Mr. *Tyrrell's* veracity, (which I own cut me to the very heart) I told her, that I could see not the least cause, for retracting any part of the agreement between us; for that tho' Mr. *Tyrrell* could prove false, the possibility whereof I strenuously opposed; yet that my affection was so grounded on him, that would the prince consent to enlarge the six months, even to the last moment of my life, so long as I was not certain that Mr. *Tyrrell* was dead in the mean time, I should rejoice at the blessed opportunity of waiting for him, notwithstanding there were ten thousand other chances against me.

Finding me thus resolute, Mrs. *Vincent* declared, that she would never more mention the affair to me, but let me pursue my own measures; tho' she heartily wished, I might not repent of them; for that she could see nothing in the prince's offer, but what any young lady breathing,

breathing, in my circumstances, ought gladly to embrace. In short, she said, she had ever thought me much pruder than she found I was, and that in her opinion, I stood very much in my own light; for that had she been the prince, she promised me, I had not come off so easily.

Mrs. *Vincent*, replied I, as you just now said you would mention this affair no more, let us call a new subject. It is no mean policy in any one to secure a friend at court; and tho' we may talk together as freely as usual to night; yet I ~~am~~ to remember, that to-morrow is to constitute you my sovereign; when I hope I shall know my distance. Now what I have to request of you is, that you will admit me in some station near your person, where, in all submission, I may enjoy your conversation, and receive your commands.

My dearest *Polly*, said Mrs. *Vincent*, don't imagine that any elevation of my condition and rank can cause the least alteration of my former inclination for you, for whom I have ever had the most intimate regard and friendship, ever since you was pleased to distinguish me from every other woman on board captain *Smith*. No, my dear, I have followed your fortune ever since, nor shall any eminence of station on my side ever separate us; you shall be as truly my queen, as I shall be yours, and in every degree enjoy the same

same privileges, save in the bed of my lord *Quanchanckspaid*.

CHAP. IX.

Procession to the King's marriage with Vincent.

She entreats Polly to marry the Prince, Prince would break through the time limited. His illness. Polly condemn'd to death for refusal. Tyrrell cures the prince. Her discovery of him, and marriage.

THE happy day arrived, wherein my friend Vincent was to be queen'd ; and we were both dress'd early, by *Inichsitmet*, as fine as hands could make us, in such vestments as his majesty had sent for our wear ; together with innumerable strings of pearl, and several other jewels ; many of which also, the prince sent for my use, which *Inichsitmet* was to dispose for us, according to the custom of the country. The cloaths were interwoven with gold and silver, and embroidered with pearls ; and we had several rich head-tires, ornamented in the same manner ; nor would many *European* queens have outshone us, even at a coronation.

We

We had not been long dress'd, (tho' we could scarce forbear laughing at each other) before we were roused by the sounds of divers musical instruments, and from our lattices could behold many thousand people attending their king to the solemnity. His majesty, was dress'd in an embroidered robe of blue silk, trailing on the ground, with an handsome scarlet vest under it; his own black hair waved on his shoulders, under a very rich cap on his head, somewhat resembling a *Scotch-bonnet*, but broader brim'd, and richly set off with jewels: he likewise bore a lance in his hand headed with gold.

The prince followed next to the king, dress'd after the same fashion, but in different colours. They entered our building, where after drinking each of us a cup of exceeding rich wine, his majesty leading his bride, as the prince did me, the procession began to the temple, preceded by abundance of his guards and courtiers; many of the former also making up the rear. We pass'd through the temple; on an elevation, at the upper-end of which, stood their grim idol, about three feet high, being an hideous representation of an human body.

When the king and his bride came in front view of it, he turned about with her, making a
low

low reverence to it; as did the prince, when in the same position; but neither Mrs. *Vincem* or I, made the least inclination of our bodies, nor stayed we half a minute before it; and then, in the same order, we all marched back to the palace.

His majesty, for the better satisfaction of his new bride, had provided a *Romish* priest, (then upon his mission in parts adjacent) who met us at the palace gate, and preceded us to our apartment, where the ceremony was to be performed, which the king suffered in the popish manner, calling it in general the christian; for he was uninformed of our differences; nor did his lady object to it, being desirous of stifling all notions of our disagreement with them, till a more opportune crisis, for breaking to him the tenets of our belief.

The solemnity ended, we all repaired to a magnificent hall, where a grand refection was prepared for us, and the evening concluded with every possible demonstration of joy, on the happy occasion. At night, having bedded the new married pair, *Inchsitmet* came to inform me, that her majesty had appointed me an apartment, one door of which opened into her own chamber; and shewed me which it was, that I might not mistake, and pass through that, instead of
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another,

another, which there was to the same apartment; for that the former was never to be opened, but by the sovereign herself, or her express command; and thus being left in my new lodging, concluded the bridal-day.

The new queen was no sooner stirring next morning, than she entered my lodgings, kissed me, and I wished her joy; which she replied, she doubted not, from the kind professions his majesty had made to her. I was introduced, and breakfasted with the new married couple, and constantly afterwards eat at their table; nor was any thing wanting to either of us, which, in that country, could possibly be added, to render our lives comfortable, and even in the highest sense delightful.

Few weeks only had passed, before the prince, by himself, the queen, and other his emissaries, had renewed his earnest solicitations to me, for dispensing with the length of time, that he had been induced to grant me; but all proved ineffectual: insomuch, that the prince grew quite melancholy, even to the neglect both of his food and exercise; till falling into an extream illness, it was generally suspected that his life was in danger. Now four months of the six being elapsed, both the king and the queen, at his instance, attacked me so vigourously, that in-
sisting

sisting it would be the death of the prince, should I persist in my obstinacy for the remaining two months, they even demanded my compliance; and the king himself, in very severe terms, menaced me, in case I agreed not immediately to the marriage.

I had scarce undergone his majesty's denunciations against me, when he having paid his son a visit, and judging with himself, that his anguish was too acute to be long tolerated, without hazard of his life, in case I relented not; he ordered him to send for me, after having informed him, what himself and the queen had urged in his behalf, and to insist on my becoming his wife, without farther hesitation.

I waited on him according to order; but I, who, as my time grew nearer and nearer, had but more and more strengthened my aversion to the match, being in hopes that in their displeasure they would at last proceed to extremities against my life, (for I could not resolve, notwithstanding my vow, to comply, even after the time should be elapsed that I had engaged for) absolutely denied his request; when, being highly moved at his speeches, and dropping some words, as if I must still demand more time; the prince was so enraged, that he ordered me out of his sight, never to approach him more.

This, tho' I could have heartily rejoiced at; yet the threatening manner, with which it was pronounced, gave me no little uneasiness. I withdrew to my apartment, and indeed, heartily sorry I was, that a necessity lay upon me, for such frequent repulses, to a man, who of all others, for the amiableness of his person, the sweetness of his disposition, and the integrity of his affection for me, I would have willingly gratified, had not Mr. Tyrrell subsisted; but that one hope of him, over balanced every other consideration whatsoever; for it would have been impossible for me to have complied, and still have existed; or had I continued in life, I must have been one of the most miserable of all objects.

I had not been long concealed in my retirement, (where I was passionately disburdening my heart by a deluge of tears) before the queen entered upon me from her private door. Child, said she, what has your obstinacy brought upon you? Here is a storm collecting, which will require more art than I am mistress of to compose. Know you, what you have done to day? No, madam, said I, save that the prince sent for me to break through his engagement, and I refused it. Yonder is the king, said she, raving like a madman; he declares you have murdered his son, and he'll be revenged. The prince hath been in convulsions,

sions, and it has been with the utmost difficulty that they have kept life in him. He exclaims against you, as the vilest, and most odious of all creatures to him. and that he will never see you more. That if he dies, as he has no room but to expect, he resolves you shall not survive him; nay, has prevailed with the king for your immediate execution; having sworn, that if it should prove possible for him to recover, he will not make you his wife.

I was sorry, I told her, for her sake, that I had done any thing which should create displeasure in his majesty; but that the message, which she brought me, was the most agreeable that I had of a long time heard; for, as it was next to impossible, ever to reduce my intricate condition to a state of peace, to my own mind; the hand of the executioner would be the most grateful remedy for my trouble, that could possibly be administered; and had it not been for the offence against heaven, I had long since saved them the trouble of dispatching me: but since I can attain my end, added I, without the commission of a real crime, to induce the catastrophe; I shall embrace it with all chearfulness.

Her majesty having made her report to the king of the temper she found me in, and of my utter inflexibility as to the prince's demand; he

ordered her once more to use such means as she should judge most prevalent, and in case they should fail, to give me seven days time to consider of it; with notice, that for my refusal, at the end of that time, my head should be stricken off before the palace gate.

The queen delivered her message with tears in her eyes, and employed every intreaty, for prevailing with me, without the least advantage. I assured her, that my resolution was already fix'd to the contrary, and that what she grieved at, as my execution-day, I myself should rejoice at, as my nuptial-day; and the only one of that name I could ever hope for on this side the grave.

As for the term of seven days longer, I told her it would prove but seven days addition to my former miseries, which I would endeavour to wear out as I had many others; but that it was the eighth day only, on which I should hope for a release from my afflictions. Then, kissing her, I intreated her to give herself no further concern, for the saving a wretch, whose ambition only was either to be found by Mr. Tyrrell, or lost to all the world.

On the third day, the prince sent to his father, to expedite my execution; for he could not

die

die in peace till that was over ; but the king, having before granted me the seven days, would not infringe his word ; nay, he even greatly blamed his son, for offering to break in upon the first time prefix'd ; attributing, in a great measure, he said, my obstinacy, to that preceeding.

In short, the seven days were elapsed, and the prince, tho' still living, was expected to die every hour. His father was wholly inconsolable for him, and the whole state was one general scene of mourning.

On the eight day, I was brought from my place of confinement, to the court before the palace, within the first gate ; where I was placed upon a scaffold, purposely erected, (as was usual in publick executions) to wait the king's order for my decapitation ; which was to be performed upon another scaffold, before the outer-gate.

You may imagine, that I wanted not a sufficient number of spectators, each remarking, somewhat, either upon my person, or story, before my tragedy was compleated ; but, after I had been there about half an hour, I perceived a violent commotion amongst the people, some running one way, some another ; when, indeed, I suspected that the prince had been dead : but the hurly burly increased, till I had sat thus, as a

spectacle, for more than an hour. In short, four hours were now elapsed, by which time, numbers of the spectators were retired, and all things seemed composed again.

I must confess, that I waited with longing impatience for the fatal blow; nor could I avoid regretting the delay, being under terrible apprehension, that somewhat was still working to protract my doom; when, on a sudden, the musick from the palace entering the court where I sat, played a slow and solemn air, while my keeper took me from my station, and reconducted me (not as I hoped, to my last stage, but) to the same apartment, which had for the preceding seven days been my prison; tho' not a word did I hear from any one, of the occasion, for such a sudden turn in my affairs.

I was exposed again the next morning, upon the same stage; but had then very few attendants: nor had I sat near an hour, before the musick entering as before, preceded me to my lodging again.

I was very much surprized at this sort of treatment, and the more so, for that no one message had been sent to inquire, whether I had as yet retracted my resolution; not being able to conceive

ceive, that I had been dallied with thus, for any other purpose.

In short, I was thus publicly exalted for five several mornings, an hour each day ; besides the first, when I sat there much longer ; nor could I figure out to myself what was at last to become of me ; but upon the sixth day, upon my return, the instruments even charmed me, their harmony was so lively and striking.

In the afternoon, *Inichsitmet*, whom I had not before seen since my close confinement, came to my dungeon, with a shift of my habiliments upon her arm, in a very complimentary manner, to desire me that I would please to be dress'd, and attend the king, queen, and prince. I was startled at the name of the prince, whom I verily thought to have been dead, and demanded of her, how his highness did ? To which, she replying very well ; still, but the more amazed me, and I turned as pale as death.

My dear *Inichsitmet*, said I, what can be the meaning of these sudden civilities, to a poor condemned criminal ? I am not removing from my prison to the prince's bed, am I ? For, in that case, I will not stir, but demand an execution of my sentence. She assuring me, that she knew no more than what her orders extended to, of

dressing and conducting me to their presence ; said I, you must serve me, in imploring the queen on my behalf, to inform me, for what purpose I am to be brought before his majesty ; and if she should say, it is in order to my marriage with the prince, then you must, from me, desire her to interceed with his majesty, for my decapitation ; and that I may, at all events, be excused from his presence.

Inichstmet brought me for answer, that my marriage was determined, and that it must soon be performed ; and that if I would deprecate the sentence, it must be only by myself to his majesty.

Perceiving that my doom was unavoidable, I suffer'd myself to be dressed in the cloaths which *Inichstmet* had brought me ; tho' they were even gayer than those I had worn at the wedding. I proceeded with a trembling heart to the royal apartment ; where I found the king and queen, sitting by a table, and the prince on a low stool, with his back towards what little light then came into the room ; for her majesty said, that she had darkened it, for fear of offending the prince's eyes, since his illness.

After I had paid my devoirs, and had stood for some time ; all being silent, the king began, with
 madam,

madam, see your husband (pointing to the prince upon the stool). I was about to reply; but, let me not hear a word to the contrary, said he; for I will no more bear it. Deliver him your hand, said he, I will have it done instantly; no contradiction.

I then fell on my knees, wept most bitterly, proclaimed every act of his majesty's benignity to me, as also those of the prince, of whose love I acknowledged myself to be most unworthy; nor can I forgive myself, said I, while I remain unable, by any force in nature, to answer your majesty's expectations. My heart, great sir, added I, is another's; nor am I able to withdraw it, from the breast it harbours in. Die I can, as your majesty has had proof; but cease to love, I never can, till I cease to breathe. I am sorry it should prove my hard hap to refuse a prince so excellent in every valuable quality as *Jonko*; but to bestow my body, without that affection which alone can yield delight to the possessor, is what I never can consent to. Had your majesty been but so gentle, as to have suffered my execution to have proceeded, in the appointed order, I had been for ever happy; but fear, your clemency will make me ever miserable: nor would his highness be the last to complain, of the half compliance I could yield him, should force (which heaven avert) compel our hands to unite.

The king and queen then rising, said he, deliver the prince your hand. Should I die, sir, said I, I cannot do it. Take you her hand then, said he; I myself will be responsible for her love to you, before you quit my apartment. You have not been resolute enough in your amour, said the king, take her hand, I say. He then seizing my hand. O! for heaven's sake, sir! said I, call me to my sentence; let not my hand go where my heart can never follow. Never follow? Said the prince (as I took him for) O! no, said I, never, never follow. — O Tyrrell!

The queen, having by this time introduced more light; and the sham prince, having dropt a sort of muffler he held to shade his cheek, and rising with his face to the window; who should stand before me, but the dear man himself, whom I had so earnestly invoked.

The surprize of seeing him so near me, (whom of all mortals I could least have suspected to have been there) threw me into such an extasy, that giving a violent shriek, I had fallen flat on the floor, but for her majesty and Tyrrell, who on each hand supported me. They placed me on a chair, and by using proper methods, soon recovered me; when my eyes, indeed, feasted on the charming vision; tho' then, even when he kissed, and spoke

to me, I could scarce believe those expressive tokens to be real, or that it was he himself; nor durst I, through fear, shame, and delight, for some time, demand the question; till recollecting my spirits, and he again clasping me in his arms. O! said he, that ever all my toils should be thus repaid! Have I then found thee, my ever dearest *Polly*; where I could have least expected it? And are you really, said I, Mr. *Tyrrell*? trembling, I am, my life, my angel, said he, thy *Tyrrell*; but, by what turn of fate, I've been conducted hither, will now be too tedious to relate; nor are you at present in capacity for receiving it.

O! said I, turning to his majesty, and the queen, who were delighting themselves at our interview; did your gracious bounties reserve me for this? Surely your majesties will now be convinced, that I have not play'd a detested part, through levity or obstinacy; but as her majesty has long been privy to the inmost longings of my soul, she knows, that they have been ever, ever center'd here, (pointing to *Tyrrell*;) nor could all the severities on earth have disjoined my affection from him: but pray, said I, may I be so bold, as to interest myself in his highness's health? There is his doctor, said the king (pointing to *Tyrrell*) that's his Physician.

It

It is strange, said I, how it should possibly happen, that Mr. *Tyrrell* should do nothing, but what must eventually more intitle him to my regard; for truly, sir, continued I, next to your majesty, no one can have suffer'd more on the prince's account, than I have done. I have compassionately grieved for, and pitied him, while it was beyond my power to relieve him; and even death, the threatened death, was preferably my choice, to becoming the wife of one man, while I sigh'd for another. Nor do I scruple to declare I did so, my conduct having sufficiently testified it.

The prince, my dear, said the queen, is so far amended, as to have been abroad for the air; sleeps composedly, eats heartily, and is absolutely another man from what he was, when Mr. *Tyrrell* administered his first remedies.

Madam, said I, may I further ask, whether he is yet reconciled to me? for otherwise my joys can be but partial, even with Mr. *Tyrrell*. My dear, replied she, he loves, and admires you, more than ever; but with a different passion. Know child, he, as we all are, is perfectly charmed with your conduct, and in testimony that he is so, hath engaged to give your hand to Mr. *Tyrrell*, to whom you was but now so loath to part with it. I then cast such a glance at him, as brought his whole soul into his face; and scarce could he restrain its bursting

bursting through his eye-balls at me; for we conversed more sensibly in dumb shew, than the queen and I, by speech.

I would fain have had Mr. *Tyrrell* declare, what accident had drawn him into this country; for I could have dwelt an age on his lips, whilst he had been recounting it; but the king, who judged that too dry exercise for our first meeting, required us both to postpone the rehearsal of our adventures, till after our nuptials, which he swore, by his idol, should be the instant that the priest, who resided a day's journey off, and whom he expected every moment, arrived; for it pierced him to the heart, he said, to behold so valuable an affection on both sides, unrewarded.

The next morning, *Tyrrell* and I waited on his highness to pay him our duties, who received us both with the most humane complaisance. I humbly begged his pardon for all the uneasiness I had created him, intreating him not to impute it to any dislike of his person; for of all men living, had I not by priority of engagement been wholly Mr. *Tyrrell's*, I should have gloried in being his choice.

The prince was pleased to assure me, that my steadiness had merited his esteem, beyond my beauty; being now sensible, that I had with justice rejected his love. Not, madam, added he, but I must

must own you to be a most generous adversary ; you no sooner wound, than the cure follows you ; for to this gentleman, who alone is worthy of you, am I indebted for my recovery : but I have promised my father to make him that present, for his cure of me, which shall amply reward him, by delivering to him, in proper time, my whole interest in you.

The king, having on the preceding day, put a stop to our discovery to each other, the means of our present meeting ; I had only an opportunity of inquiring after my mamma, uncle, and Mrs Giffard's family ; all of whom, he assured me, he left well ; but that he had a great deal to add on these heads, when time would serve. Now, said he, tho' I would by no means anticipate any part of my narration, yet I think, I may go so far as to say, that your cousin *Sophy* is married, and settled at *Jamaica*.

The queen then breaking in upon us, took us down to dinner with her ; but I was so impatient for a word more of cousin *Sophy*, that had we not been interrupted ; from one question to another, I should have fished out his whole story, before the time, notwithstanding his orders to the contrary ; for the dear man could refuse me nothing.

The

The priest arrived that night, and being informed that we were both *European* christians, made no scruple of uniting us in wedlock, the next morning: when the prince himself, giving my hand to my dearest *Tyrrell*, I then judged myself to have arrived at the summit of human felicity.

CHAP. X.

Polly relates her adventures to the king. Tyrrell does the same.

IT was on the afternoon of our marriage, that his majesty claimed an account of our several adventures; for he told us, that a knowledge of the difficulties of each others circumstances, in order to obtain the desirable end which they had now produced, would heighten our future enjoyments; and, if possible, make us the dearer to each other.

The prince, and several of the grandees being present, I would have had Mr. *Tyrrell* to have began first, while he recommended that post to me; till the prince, demanding which of us left *England* first? and Mr. *Tyrrell* replying, that I did: then, with his majesty's leave, said he, the priority of relation belongs to the lady; as what Mr. *Tyrrell* under-

undertook, must have been subsequent to, and in consequence of, her departure.

Having performed my necessary compliments to the audience, in order to bespeak their favour upon any failings or imperfections in my enterprize, I began with my parentage, and the out-cast state my father had reduced me to; exaggerating Mr. *Tyrrell's* affection and generosity to me, at the time of engaging me for his wife. His departure for a few days; and my asportation by *Grainger*, with all its blackest circumstances. His intended rape; my wounding him; and what had befallen us, both at *Barbadoes* and *Jamaica*, with our escape from the latter, and the manner of it, and our arrival in his majesty's dominions. What hath since befallen me, is so well known to all present, said I, that it will not require a repetition.

I received the thanks of the whole company, and her majesty herself, bearing testimony to the truth of almost every fact from my first embarkation for *Jamaica*, on board the *Jamaica Merchant*, (*Grainger's* Ship being so called) assured them, that I had made a most minute and faithful narrative of it.

Mr. *Tyrrell* being then desired to begin; the prince reply'd, my story was attended with so many interesting particulars, that if it pleased their majesty's,

jesty's, Mr. *Tyrrell* should defer his own till the next day ; that they might not, by hearing both at one sitting, blend different scenes into the same history, which he feared would be the consequence of a double relation, till the first had settled itself in our minds.

This being thought very proper, and it growing into the evening, it was deferred ; and on the following afternoon, Mr. *Tyrrell* entered upon his adventures, as follows.

Upon my arrival from my country seat in *Devonshire*, at Mr. *Giffard's* ; I was prodigiously surprized, at finding the whole family in tears. Every one silent. Not a word of the occasion of it, escaping from any of them. I saw Miss *Sophy* there, under equal affliction with the rest ; nor could I conceive what it meant : but impatient for a discovery of the mystery, I made bold to interrupt Miss *Sophy's* sobbings, by an inquiry into your health, my dear ; and when she left you ? The only answer I could obtain to my demand was, a fresh flux of tears from all the company ; which I must own, gave me the most terrible apprehensions for your safety : and, as people in dubious perplexity, have commonly recourse to the most afflictive surmises ; I immediately concluded that you was dead, and that each of them was fearful of
being

being the first messenger of such shocking news, as they must imagine that would prove to me,

I repeated my demand, in some agony, to Mrs. *Giffard*; who replied only by wringing of her hands, and a deep sigh: when Mr. *Giffard*, (tho' himself exceedingly moved) perceiving me almost distracted at their silence, began. It is to but little purpose, my dear friend, said he, that we hold you thus in suspense; the truth must come out, and the sooner you are apprized of it, the more readily may you (if that is yet to be accomplished) provide some remedy, against the anguish my declaration must induce upon you. Your *Polly* is lost. Lost? returned I, furiously upon him, heaven preserve her Life! She cannot be dead!—it is impossible!

My good friend, said Mr. *Giffard*, I am ashamed to disclose the occasion of her loss, lest the scandal redounding from it to human nature, should reflect upon ourselves; but I shall inform you, that it is presumed she is alive.---Presumed so only? said I. --- Has she been ill? neither, replied Mr. *Giffard*; but, in short, our school-fellow *Grainger*, whose residence is at *Jamaica*, having some business in *England*, called to pay his respects to me, for two or three days; and whilst my wife and I were upon a charitable visit to a sick relation, *Grainger*, under pretence of carrying *Polly* to her mother in
his

his hired chariot, has run away with her, as we suppose; nay, it must be so, for no one hath seen either of them, since she stepped into it with him, yesterday.

O! that accursed perfidious villain! said I. Did he know my claim to her? They replied, he did.—Which way took he? Said I.—They said, the *Hampshire* road. Then never let my eyelids close for slumber, said I, till I find her. I will pursue her round the globe, and sacrifice the life of the ravisher to her honour.

I had not been alighted full half an hour from my journey, when I ordered out my horses, took hearty leave of my dear friends, and pursued the same road that they informed me the chariot had taken; but not the least intelligence could I obtain of it; whether it was for want of proper description, or what other means, I know not: but I was indeed so strongly persuaded that you must have made the tour of *London*, as to prevent much farther inquiry on the road, by reason of the delay it necessarily occasioned; so that pushing for *London*, I took up my stand at the stone's end, for three days and nights, in hopes of surprizing you upon your entry of the town; for I was so few hours after you, and had rode so hard, that I was well assured, unless you drove night and day, the chariot could not have been in
before

before me : but all my search was to no purpose.

I went to the *Royal Exchange*, conversed with every merchant, and person that I could meet with, who had but the least concern with, or knowledge of *Jamaica*, amongst whom were very few, who knew not Mr. *Grainger* ; some of them had seen him in town, about a month past, but no one could give any account whether he had left the kingdom, or with whom he had sailed. At length, almost despairing of the success of my pursuit, I one morning met with a captain at the coffee-house, who arrived from *Jamaica*, in company of Mr. *Grainger's* vessel. This gentleman informed me, that *Grainger* came over in a ship of his own, the *Jamaica* merchant, captain *Smith*. That the ship arrived in the river, and unloaded, as also took in part of her cargo for her return. Soon after which, captain *Smith* signified to him, that his owner, Mr. *Grainger*, having contracted for a parcel of fine stone, and several artificers in *Dorsetshire*, he had wrote to him to come round, and take them on board ; and from thence, proceed to *Southampton*, till further orders ; but what subsequent directions he might have had, for shaping his course elsewhere, he could not say ; for that captain *Smith* had left the river near two months before.

This

This being the most particular account to be obtained, either of *Grainger* or his vessel; I took post for *Southampton*; where I gained intelligence, that such a ship had been off *Lymington* for some time. I then posted away to *Lymington*, where I chanced to put up at the very same inn you had lain at, and had an account of your departure the next morning, and that the coachman, on his return from carrying you to the boat, had declared, that his master had made prize of the charmingest young creature in *England*, and that himself had five guineas for conniving at the deceit, and gaining *Lymington* that night.

This report drove me almost besides myself. I only took a single glass of wine, and a crust, before I set out again, directly for *London*. I applied myself again to the coffee-house, for any captain who should first enter upon his voyage for *Jamaica*; but none would be sailing, in less than a month. Captain *Graves*, of the *Planter*, was the first, and with him I agreed, for the passage of myself and servant, and laid in stores, proper for the voyage.

Before I set out, I had ordered a large remittance from *Devonshire*, and had received some other cash that I had in town; besides which, I took bills of credit upon *Jamaica*, and then set sail;

fail ; but the month, within which we were to have departed, turned out full two, before we left the river.

The weather proved exceeding fine, for most part of the voyage ; nor met we with the least ruffle, or tempest, but what my breast contained ; which indeed, was almost insupportable ; for the nearer we arrived to our wished-for haven, the more violent became my distraction, for want of that news, which I could not but dread to hear ; either of your marriage to *Grainger*, or his male-treatment of you, for refusal.

At our landing at *Port-Royal*, my mind had been so agitated with perplexity, that I had not been there longer, than just to gain a certainty, that *Grainger* was not then arrived upon the island, before the perturbation of my spirits had cast me into a violent fever, which held me a full month or more, before I was able to stir abroad ; nor was my life expected for twelve hours together, for the first three weeks ; nor, after the fever had in great measure left me, was it believed, that I could escape a lingering consumption, which (tho' by slower degrees) would as certainly have ended me ; for I had not the least inclination for food, and daily declined, both in my flesh and strength, till I was emaciated, almost to a moving skeleton.

At

At this time arrived a gentleman, who happening to take up his lodging at the same house with me, expressed great concern for my declining state; but assured me, that if I would submit to the use of his prescription, he would in one week's time, restore me to amazing vigour. I hearkened to his discourse with the highest satisfaction, for that the summit of my wish was; but, to be assured of what had befallen you, my dear; and then methought, having revenged myself of the perfidious *Grainger*, I could have died content.

In short, I had not applied his remedies above three days, before my stomach returning, I slept sound, my strength increas'd, and, in a week or ten days, I was capable of walking the town like other people; and very soon after perceived myself transformed to a new creature.

By my frequent converse with the captains upon the quay, (as almost every one there is a captain) I was informed, that captain *Smith* was gone to *Barbadoes*; for that the captain, who gave me the intelligence, had met him off *Hispaniola*, where he assured him, that he was to touch at the Island of *Barbadoes*, for some time, before he should return to *Jamaica*.

This being attested for reality, I made no more delay, but hiring a small vessel to myself, pursued him thither.

Before I set sail, I had made my doctor (who from his discourse, I had discovered to be a jesuit in disguise) a very genteel present, for his cure of me ; and having experienced the excellency of the prescription ; left, (as I was like to be longer absent from my native air, than I had expected) I should relapse into my former disorder, I offered him a round sum for his recipe. He accepted of my proposal, and not only gave it me in writing, but also a quantity of the medicine, which he had by him ready prepared, and which I was so exceeding choice of, as always to carry it about me.

On our arrival at *Barbadoes*, I heard that Mr. *Grainger* had been extremely ill there ; but that he was then sailed for *Jamaica*, and (according to the time) it appeared to have been before I had sailed for *Barbadoes*. I was also informed of the wound, which you, my dear, had given him, and the occasion of it ; and of his confession about it : from all which, and many other hints of intelligence, I collected, that you had as yet received no injury from him, to your honour ; but not doubting, but when he should have you solely at his own dispose at *Jamaica*, he would renew his attempts upon
you ;

you; I hurried away for that island, with all possible expedition, to prevent what I dreaded worse than death.

Our ship being but a small one, and only in ballast; in our return a north-west wind forced us out to sea for several days, spoiled much of our tackling, and, by the fall of one of our masts, so damaged the ship otherwise, that after several weeks beating about the ocean, we were obliged to put in at *Barbadoes* to refit; and were confined there a long time, before we could put ourselves in sailing order again.

At length we reached *Jamaica*, where I heard of the arrival of Mr. *Grainger*, and that he had brought a young lady with him, who either was, or was to be, his wife. I stayed but a few days, just to recover from the fatigue of my voyage, before my impatience prompted me, to offer Mr. *Grainger* a meeting; for which purpose, I wrote him a letter by a special messenger, to his plantation; wherein I required him to send you to me, by the bearer, in the convenience I had procured, and sent for you.

I upbraided him with the baseness of his treatment, both to me, his friend *Giffard*, and yourself; asserting, that if he was a man, who had not deserted the last principles of honour, he must meet

me at *Port Royal*, and make me due satisfaction, for the injuries he had done, both to myself and you, or I would proclaim him a dastardly scoundrel, and ravisher.

I chose not to put myself so absolutely into his power, as to appear at his plantation single, against such an army of miscreants, as would be under a necessity of executing all such orders as he should enjoin them; judging, that it would have been but a rash presumption in me; but I waited with fullen impatience the return of my messenger, who in due time, brought me *Grainger's* answer; purporting, that true it was, he had brought the lady I mentioned over with him, presuming that she might have been as happy with him, as with me; he being in no respect my inferiour: that he had treated her too well, ever since, which had occasioned her escape, in his absence, on business of the island at *Port Royal*. That as for any thing else I might have to say to him, his own affairs would call him thither again in a little time, where he should neither seek, or avoid me, or any man breathing, who had ought to require of him.

This answer, tho' it gave me incredible uneasiness, on account of you, my dear, would not, however, suffer me to quit the town, till *Grainger's* appearance there; so that during my stay, I renew'd the acquaintance

quaintance I had formed at my first landing, and was tolerably known to many chief persons; nor was I wholly unknown to the governour himself. My story, from my former relation of it, had passed current for some time; and as *Grainger* was soon expected at *Port Royal*, it was generally surmised, that a rencounter would ensue upon our meeting.

Grainger came as he had appointed, but had been a day or two in the place before we met; but one morning being upon the quay, and hearing his name, (for it was so many years since I had seen him, that we were each strangers to the other) my choler rose extreamly; but least I might be mistaken in the man, as there might be several of the same name, I stepped up to him, and demanded, whether he was the person who had returned from *England* with captain *Smith*? At the same breath, declaring my name to be *Tyrell*; he replied, he was, and was apprized of my business with him.

There were several persons present, who hearing us at high words, would have interposed between us; but upon my declaring, that he had forcibly run away with the lady, to whom I was contracted for marriage in *England*, that he had carried her to his plantation, from whence (he now informed me) she had escaped, (but whether to prevent my further search for her, or whether it

was a truth, I could not determine) I intreated them, in consideration of my sufferings, that they would permit me to receive that satisfaction, which was justly due to a gentleman, so grossly abused as I had been, and not prevent my chastisement of so flagrant a villainy, as could intitle the aggressor to no mercy.

Grainger, I must say for him, much like a gentleman, declined the interposition of the spectators; desiring them to retreat, and leave us to ourselves; which they perceiving to be our joint request, complied with, and withdrew to a considerable distance. Our swords were instantly drawn, and parrying one of his thrusts, I received a wound in the side of the calf of my right leg; but the very next push went quite through his body, and down he fell.

I made no attempt for an escape, nor had I premeditated it; but immediately sheathing my sword, I surrendered myself in custody to the present company; desiring only an impartial representation of the fact to the governour, according to the truth of the case.

A surgeon was instantly procured, who removed *Grainger* to an house near the quay; and myself being led before the governour, was from thence (after I had explained the nature and circumstances of

of the offence, and the process of the action between us) remanded into custody, till further evidence should appear, either in confirmation of, or contradiction to, my assertions.

I sent for the surgeon, who had him under cure, to be informed of his condition; and whether his wound was mortal, or not. He assured me, it was, and that he could not possibly survive twenty four hours; for that he bled so much inwardly, as of itself to occasion his death; but added, that he had frankly confessed himself the aggressor; that he had been a villain, and had drawn vengeance on his own head, but that he forgave me; and further, the surgeon said, that he was then going, at Mr. *Grainger's* request, to the governour, and two or three of the council, that he might have the opportunity of clearing his conscience before some of them, e'er he died.

I heard nothing of what had passed before the governour, or council, till my tryal came on, at the end of about a month's confinement; (but *Grainger* died in the night after the action) when the charge of his death happening by my hand being made out against me; those members of the council, who had been present at *Grainger's* confession, produced it in open court, signed by himself, and attested by their several hands; which being

read, I was acquitted, without a syllable urged by myself, in my own defence.

The paper contained a just state of the difference between us; he condemned himself therein to the highest degree, declared he had made his will on a former occasion, which he had placed in my lady's hands, and by that writing confirmed it, in the solemnest manner, and heartily begged us both to forgive him. But, as I neither then or still know any thing of the will, or whether it is in being or not, I can say nothing as to that.

Their majesties interrupting him, desired to be satisfied, whether I remembered any thing of the will, and what were the contents of it? For that as Mr. *Grainger* (the Queen said) was a man of very great substance, it might, if made in our favour, prove of considerable benefit to us. Having studied a short space, (tho' indeed I took so little notice of it at first, that I laid no stress upon it) I recollected, that I had thrust it into a private pocket in my stays, which I had left behind in our apartment, when we were dressed first in the mode of the country we were then in, and told her majesty so; but whether either that, or the stays, were then in being, I could not say; but I would inquire of *Inichfitmet* against the next day.

Mr

Mr. *Tyrrell* then proceeded; soon after I was at liberty, I went to Mr. *Grainger's* plantation, to inquire after you, where it was positively confirmed to me, that you had escaped with one Mrs. *Vincent*, and two *Indian* slaves; and that, notwithstanding the most diligent search that Mr. *Grainger* could make, you could never after be heard of.

My inquiry ending here, I bent my thoughts on my voyage to *England*; and returning to *Port Royal*, I took my passage in a vessel just ready to sail thither; when a few days before we were to embark, who should I meet, but your cousin *Sophy*, just landed, and supported by the arm of a young gentleman, of about twenty-five years of age. I challenged her, and she immediately remembering me, we entered into discourse; when I asked her who that gentleman was? And she informed me her husband; that he had a small plantation in that country, and was come over to take possession of it; they intending to fix their residence on it. I saw her several times during my stay, and relating to her how ineffectual my voyage had been, as to the sole purpose of it, the recovering of you, we parted, and I went on board my ship.

Just before I left the port it was warmly rumour'd about, and advices daily arrived, of a war declared between *England* and *France*; whereupon, we had

not long been at Sea, before the captain having heard that several *British* men of war had been seen coasting in latitude 36. and 37. and thereabouts, signified his intent of keeping the lee-shore, for the benefit of running into some of our colonies, or being under the protection of the men of war, in case of danger from the enemy, for we were in no respect a defensible ship.

We had just passed the *Bermuda's* when such a tempest fell upon us from the south-east, and east, by turns, that we had but small hopes of weathering it; expecting every moment to be overwhelm'd in the waves; all the hands on board being unequal to preserving the ship right to the wind; it varying, shifting, and blowing with such jerks, that, before morning, we had given ourselves over for lost, not having a mast standing; so that all the little hope we had in this world, was turned into concern for the next; at length our rudder broke loose, when being no more than a meer hulk, we were driven according to the humour of the winds and course of the water.

On the fifth morning, at break of day, we found ourselves driving to shore, and before night the vessel bulged on a blind rock; but still driving forward, over the first point, it there remained fixt by its own bulk and weight; the waves by degrees dashing it to pieces.

Tho'

Tho' the wind had not much abated, yet, as any chance seemed better than that of remaining where we were, we all took to the boat; and with extream hazard at length reached the shore. We had little or no provision, and an exceeding wild country before us, and pretty woody; nor could we well guess on what particular shore we were landed: but the following morning we ascended the rising grounds, in order for a prospect of the country, and to see whether we could possibly descry any settlement that we might betake us to.

We had drawn our boat on shore, intending, when the water was calm, to have rowed to the rock, in order to have recovered some part of the wreck and provisions which were very scanty amongst us; for great part of the vessel still remained unwashed away.

Myself and two more took our guns to the woods in search of fresh provisions, or fruits, or whatever other eatables we should find; but having travelled beyond our skill to find our way back that night, we were compelled to lie there, not doubting but to set ourselves right the next morning; but then, being of two or three different opinions, as to which way we should take, (for want of the sun to direct us) through the multitude of council,

we pursued the wrong; (as I then thought) but two to one carried it against me.

Imagining themselves to be in a right track, my companions bestirred themselves, as I also did, to recover our friends as soon as possible; but instead of them, having travelled on for several days, we fell in with a party of near thirty *Indians*, who, coming upon us at unawares, surprized and made us prisoners; taking us with them about a fifteen days march up the country.

I cannot complain of their treatment to us, when we arrived amongst them; but so soon as I began a little to understand them, I perceived that preparations were making for war with some neighbouring state, which I now apprehend was with your majesty; I therefore begged to be admitted amongst the troops, rather chusing the life of a man in arms, than that of a beast, in servile drudgery, at their settlement.

We had not been long, patrolling in small parties, on the confines of your majesty's territories, before myself, and eleven more of us, who were dispatched round a mountain for discovery, were taken by a body of your men, and being all sent hither, we arrived at your palace the very morning that my most dear wife was first exposed on the stage, before her intended execution.

The

The sight seemed to me somewhat peculiar, and the immense concourse of people surrounding her, gave occasion for my inquiry into the meaning of what I then saw; when, upon information of the prince's condition, and that he was reduced to it, through the obstinacy of the fair criminal upon the stage; it immediately entered into my head, that the same remedy which had so miraculously restored me, could not be ineffectual for the prince's disorder; which, by report, bore so near an affinity to my own: so that I declared to my keeper, in case he would strike off my fetters, and bring me to the king, I would save his son's life; but that it must be instantly done, before execution of the criminal, or my remedy would have no effect.

Your majesty well remembers that part of my conditions of cure were, that the guilty person's sentence should be respited till the force of my medicines were proved; and that if they perfected a cure, she should be pardoned. Now, sir, my motive thereto was meerly the preservation of a christian, for I perceived her to be an *European* by the clearness of her countenance, and consequently a christian; tho' the distance from which I then beheld her was so great, that, so far from knowing her to be my dear wife, I could not distinguish any one feature in her face.

When

When my prescription had operated amazingly, for the three first days, her majesty remembers, that from my dialect, perceiving me to be an *English* man, (for she had not seen me before) and inquiring into my name, country and family; and hearing that the first was *Tyrrell*, she engaged me further in discourse, till she was so perfectly satisfied who I was, that she then, to my great astonishment, assured me how valuable a life I was about to preserve; since which, you may conceive that my industry in the prince's cure hath no ways been slackened. Thus, said he, my dearest, was you from day to day respited, till through the hand of providence in the prince's recovery, and his majesty's succeeding clemency, we have most unexpectedly been restored to the longing arms of each other.

CHAP.

C H A P. XI.

Polly finds Grainger's will. Is left his whole estate. Return to Jamaica. Recover the estate. Settle Morris and his wife on it. Return for England. See a water spout. A Tornado. Wrecked and made prisoners on the coast of Morocco. Polly sold to a merchant at Fez. Her soliloquy. Serves the merchant's daughter.

NO sooner was Mr. Tyrrell's relation at an end, than the whole assembly arising, returned him their applauses for the favour he had done them, having never in their lives been better entertained; and the evening concluded, in remarking thereon, as each party had been differently affected with it; so that till supper-time was taken up in giving suppletory notes, by way of further illustration to particular facts. Before we parted, his majesty demanding of Mr. Tyrrell, how he liked his dominions? And he replying, that it was a charming country, and only wanted some of our *English* methods in the manuring, cultivating, and improving the lands: the king then added, that he hoped Mr. Tyrrell would think of continuing with him; for that he should command all that he

he could gratify him in, less than his whole kingdom.

Mr. *Tyrrell* assured him, how full of acknowledgements he was for all his majesty's past favours; but that having a fair estate in his own country, which would greatly suffer in his absence, he could not do him greater honour than by dismissing us, with a proper guard, to the next *English* frontiers, from whence he should soon command shipping for our return; assuring their majesties, that he should make their prosperity part of his daily prayers.

The next day *Inichfitmet* brought me my old stays, and in them the long-neglected will of Mr. *Grainger*. I carried it forthwith to Mr. *Tyrrell*, who having perused it; my dear, said he, you have often, since we met, declared that my regard for you under your indigence, (as you have called it) had given me an uncontrollable title to your heart; and for ought I see, I must now return you the same compliment. You know not what a fortune you offer me by this writing! Mr. *Grainger* has here given you, what was affirmed to me on the spot, to be worth seven thousand pounds a year sterling, besides near twenty thousand pounds, live and dead stock.

I am

I am fully perswaded of the reality, not only of the estate, but of the will being still good, from the late publick confirmation of it, which he made but few hours before his death; so that I cannot now think of returning to *England*, without first revisiting *Jamaica*, and putting an estate of this value upon some proper footing. If it will but defray the immense charges I have been at in this voyage, it will be worth seeking after; for they amount to no inconsiderable sum.

I replied, just as he pleased; when he told me, that being so intimate as I was with the queen, who, in his judgment, was as sensible a discerning woman as ever he met with; he would have me inform her of it, and advise with her about it. I did so, and she recommended it to me, by all means, having so good a title by the late act of confirmation, not to let so noble an acquisition slip for want of looking after.

When we had staid some weeks (at his request) at *Quanbanckshaid's* court, he then granted us an escort of twelve hundred men, to convoy us to the western confines of *Maryland*; from whence, by proper guides, we were conducted to *Chesapeake Bay*, where we hired shipping for *Jamaica* once more.

We

We informed ourselves at *Port Royal*, that a distant kinsman of the deceased had possessed himself of the late *Grainger's* plantation, and carried on the works there, for his two sisters; upon which, by advice of our advocate, we exhibited and proved his will; and upon search found his confirmation of it in the hands of the clerk of the council. Being then refused admission into the estate, we soon recovered as much of the personals, (by virtue of his executorship) as would enable us to propound a suit for the plantation. At length, having attended the cause full twelve months, our adversaries, being advised that all would go against them, entered into a compromise for delivering possession to us, upon payment of ten thousand pounds to them, within six months.

We took an exact inventory of every thing upon the estate; had a plan made of it, and of every erection upon it, and took all such precautions as we were advised to be necessary; and having sent for *Mr. Morris*, (*Sophy's* husband) and her over to us, (for we found them to be settled upon a plantation which would sooner have starved than fed them) we entrusted them with the estate for twenty-one years, upon articles, for payment of four thousand pounds a year, clear of all deductions, to our agent upon the *Exchange of London*. Besides which they were to keep up the stock upon the estate,

estate, in every degree, just as when delivered to them, and return us the same, at the expiration of the term.

This was such joyful news to poor *Sophy*, as nothing but the delight of seeing me again, and that in the happiest condition, that I could have wished to appear in, could have equalled.

Thus having compleated every thing to our wish, we prepared for *England*; having discharged the ten thousand pounds we were to pay, out of what we had collected in of the personal estate.

Mr. *Grainger* having had two vessels of his own, which were now ours, we almost freighted them both with the commodities of our own plantation; but there wanting somewhat of their full freight, we soon compleated it by the goods of other persons. Setting sail with so much treasure, we even esteemed all our past labours and fatigues over-paid by this vast accession of fortune; nor enjoyed we less pleasurable reflections at the presents we purposed to make my mother, uncle, and other our good friends, than at what we had already done for *Sophy* and her husband, whose situation in life we had exceedingly advanced; as they would at least, by good management, receive the benefit of three thousand pounds a year from our stock only.

In

In latitude thirty two, the wind having mostly blown westerly during our whole voyage hitherto, we were all on a sudden becalmed; when a cloud, as black as pitch, arising at south-west, pursued us. This, when within half a league of us, (the sea beginning to be so agitated all around us, as if it perfectly boiled) we perceived to be a large water-spout, directly in our track. We could precede it but slowly, by reason of the calm; nor could we well vary our course, for want of a breeze to carry us.

We were all in the most violent consternation imaginable, expecting no less than to perish every soul of us, in case it should break near our ship; the captain declaring it to be the largest he had ever seen in his life. My fears on this occasion only threw me into a fit of crying; and begging Mr. *Tyrrell* to see that every possible means was used for our assistance. He did so; and the spout visibly drawing nearer to us, but rather to our larboard quarter, in which way the other ship, our companion, was; the captain was of opinion, that we should not fire our guns, as we had at first resolved to do, lest by breaking its continuity, in the situation it then was, it should overwhelm our companion; but rather, as it now seemed to decline from us, that we should lie by all that we could,

could, in which case, it would certainly fall beyond us.

Mr. *Tyrrell* himself, wholly unskilled in maritime affairs, submitted to the captain's reasons; nor was it many minutes before his suspicion became verified: for while he and I were remarking its passage, as we stood on deck, the spout burst, with the most tremendous noise that can be conceived; and fell into the water not unlike to a monstrous column of stone. This was succeeded by such an instant shower of rain, whether proceeding from a cloud, or from only the dash of the water, occasioned by the fall of the spout, I can't say; that I was wet through before I could retreat under shelter. However, the shower not lasting long, upon our return to the deck, our associate ship was no more to be seen; being, as was generally concluded, gone to the bottom, overborn by the break of the spout.

I had never seen one before, nor could I have given credit to a report of any such thing, as I shall describe this spout to be; for even the captain, who had had most opportunity, as well as reason to enquire into it, could assign no natural cause, for what should either raise, or at least support, a column, containing such an immense quantity of water, of vast circumference, and extending from the clouds to the surface of the sea; it being
one

one pillar of solid water, (if I may so call it) without other case, than the air, more liquid, and pervious than itself.

Whilst we were contemplating this phenomenon, and not only lamenting the loss of the poor perished crew and cargo, but amplifying the mercy of providence for our own preservation, whose lot it might have proved, to have been involved in the same predicament: the captain came running into the cabin; sir, said he, to Mr. *Tyrrell*, here is more danger; we are plunging into another misfortune; here is certainly a tornado arising. What will become of us! For my part, I had heard no more of a tornado, than I had of a water spout, before I saw it; but Mr. *Tyrrell* demanding, how he knew that, and what might be expected to be the effects of it? He desired us to step to the cabin door, and listen. We did so; when every rope seemed in a tremulous motion, whilst the tackle rattled, like a breeze in the top of a grove of trees; and yet not the least air seemed to be stirring. This, said he, is the forerunner of what I so much dread, a violent hurricane.

He immediately ordered all the sails to be furled, and the yards lashed close to the masts; then removing every thing that would but gather the least wind, he gave several other directions, as if we were actually in a storm; but the air seeming, to
Mr.

Mr. *Tyrrell* and me, to be quite serene, we could not but suspect, that all this great caution was unnecessary; and Mr. *Tyrrell* taking notice, that no set of people upon earth were so superstitious as the mariners, we troubled not ourselves too minutely to remark his further proceedings.

We had no sooner finished this discourse, but taking a prospect from the cabin window, we saw the sea, at a vast distance before us, looking very turbulent; and observed, that it worked its way nearer and nearer to us in that wrinkled form; till at length, mountain seemed to follow mountain, as if purposely directed for our overthrow.

This sight struck terror into us; but before either of us had power to declare our inward conjectures by speeches, the ship received such a shock from the leading billow, that one would have thought it must have split into a thousand pieces. We were instantly upon the summit of it, as it passed us; when sliding down its reverse side, we precipitately sunk into a vast interspace, surrounded with hills of water; till the succeeding wave delivered us almost to the clouds again.

Such a storm now raged over our heads, that the waves increasing, we were in the greatest extremity of danger. We were frequently left at mountain's height above the level surface of the ocean,

ocean, when the wave that raised us, withdrawing itself from our support, we were tofs'd like a ball against the broad-side of the next billow, which only broke our fall for many fathoms, till itself deserting us, we sunk again. At last, some of our masts being disabled, and our tackling torn from their stays; every hand being under the most inexpressible fatigue of body and mind; all command of the vessel was lost, and they suffered her to drive as she would, and scuffle for herself; themselves only waiting for their dissolution.

I demanded of the captain whereabouts we were? He replied, that he knew not exactly; but that the night before we were in latitude thirty-three or four; but where we might now be, he was ignorant; nor indeed did it much matter, for it was impossible, if this wind lasted an hour longer, that the ship should keep above water; that for his part, he had for some time expected every thump to be our last.

I inquired, whether we were driving to, or from, land? He replied, towards land; for that he judged we might be between the *Azores* and *Canary* islands. Tho' the extravagant fury of the wind had in some measure abated, yet it continued with such violence, at south-west, that we could not come to mend our shatter'd tackle; and the only mast we had standing

standing was so shiver'd, that would the weather have permitted a sail, it was unable to bear it.

We were drove in sight of *Madeira*, and would fain have guided the vessel to it, but could not, and were obliged to pass by. In several days, after being thus driven, we were one night thrown upon shore, to the northward of *Cape Cantin*, on the coast of *Morocco*, and found ourselves in the morning, in a small bay, about a quarter of a mile within its entrance from the sea. We lay a broad-side to the shore, as the tide had left us; and at our stern, about a furlong more southward, was a small vessel riding at anchor, and seemingly in sailing order.

It had not been long light before the whole shore was lined with people; but it being a very long and flattish shore, and the water then coming in, they could not come at us, but under the disadvantage of being chin-deep in water, till they could be able to make use of their boats, which all lay at high-water mark.

We were presently apprized of their design; and in order to be beforehand with them, as our boat would not contain the whole crew at once, thirteen only of them launched her, and made all the expedition possible to seize the small vessel,

K

which

which lay a stern of us ; imagining that there were but few, if any, hands on board her.

Mr. *Tyrrell*, who was one of the most active men of his time, was for making one in every adventure that either required nicety of management or dispatch, and accordingly went off in the boat : they having calculated, that they should have taken and brought the little vessel to our relief, before the tide would be risen high enough, for the people on shore, to put off their small craft for our ship.

We saw them arrive at the small vessel, under numberless shot from the shore, but all far short of them ; and we could perceive that they met with stout resistance, tho' at last they boarded her : but before they could any ways render her assistant to our escape, the boats swarming from the shore, had entered our vessel, removed us prisoners out of it, and were carrying on the plunder in the most rapacious manner.

We prisoners were set on shore, with our hands tied behind us, and our feet tied together, and laid above high water mark ; and heartily glad I was to see the vessel, our boat had taken, steering out of the harbour ; since we were all sensible, how impracticable it must have been to have released us. I expected, indeed, that Mr. *Tyrrell's* enterprizing genius would have prompted him to the attempt, but

but loath as I was, to part with him, and that too, most probably, for ever : I could not however have wished for his participation of my unhappy circumstances.

There was such a prodigious number of boats employed upon the wreck, that breaking up the very planks and timber, as they descended lower into her, in about six hours time, there was not the least token either of her, or her cargo, left ; for the work never ceased ; there being always both as many boats and hands working, and moving to and from her, as could possibly stand one by another.

Upon their moving inland with their plunder, we prisoners were drove before them ; and at their entrance to *Mafagan*, were put under restraint, till we could be otherwise disposed of : there being nine of us, besides myself ; five sailors, two single gentlemen, and one merchant and his wife, passengers.

It was of infinite comfort to me in my distress, to have one of my own sex to converse with me ; but what would next become of us, we knew not ; for the persons who took us, being but the meer rabble of the country, we supposed them to be incapable of reserving us for their own use ; but rather, that they would dispose of us for their profit,

to such as could maintain us: so that we apprehended our total separation to be at no great distance.

By the time that we had resided about a month here, subject to every cruel drudgery, we were driven further up the country, and exposed to sale to the best bidder. We had been stript of every thing that was worth owning, before we left *Masagan*; but having begged hard for an under petticoat, I had it, and an old rag given me, to throw cross my shoulders; tho' now, I was obliged to part from both, and content myself only with a single slip of woollen, like an half handkerchief, round my middle; for that I must not hide my limbs, when I was upon sale.

I never heard what became of either of my fellow prisoners, after that I myself was purchased, by an elderly gentleman, for considerably more (as I afterwards heard) than two young sparks, (who had, by bidding upon each other, raised my market) would give for me. I now expected that my heart would have split in my bosom for very sorrow, to think upon what a miserable state I was entering. Alas! thinks I, how did I pride myself a few weeks since, at being the wife of *Tyrrell*, owner of the vessel I sailed in, and commander of the souls she contained! How did each head bow to me, subservient to my orders! What
a vast

a vast disproportion then was there, between me and them ! They, mean sailors, labouring for trifles, and myself mistress of a rich cargo on board, and of thousands a year on shore ! What a turn is here in my circumstances ! Who can now only pride myself in one poor rag about my body ! And yet a pride there is, even in that, insomuch, that I would not part with it for thousands ; unless its place might be supplied by some other. Nay, even this is not my own ; but must be dropt, should my lord and master command it ; and then should I be as naked as *Job* himself was : but hold ! Why run I so far ! He was more miserable by his abundant sores, than myself am. If, therefore, the world hath in store such numbers of evils, applicable to mankind ; who am I, to be exempt from them all !—Ought I not to bear my share ! I am not in the worst state that I can conceive ! Nay, why do I complain of my fate, who have left so many scores of souls subject to infinite anguish in my service at *Jamaica* ! Without once casting a pitiful eye on their calamities ! How surprisingly different in our conceptions, is our own distress, from that of other folks ! From whence arises this ! But from want of reflection ! Poor souls that we are, who dread not that evil to another, which we feel not ourselves ! For that sense alone sharpens our inclination to the search of others woes.

Looked I carelessly then, on my own slaves, because I felt not what slavery was! It may be so; then I ought sooner to have considered it; and having placed myself in their stead, (which surely had I done) meer tenderness for my own species, must have pleaded for their release! What, if the plantation had not yielded half so much, was I intitled to other mens labours, whether they would or not! Our first curse was, and that indiscriminately upon all men, that we should live by the sweat of our brow; but that was, each man by the sweat of his own. How then have I applied that, but by compelling hundreds to exhaust their moisture for my luxury; for that is all the notion I have yet had of them, and their servitude. It may be said, I have bought them, and shall I not use my property? I think I am now placed in such a sphere, as by no means to justify such a proceeding. O! no, no, the buyer is the double villain; he not only transgresses most unjustifiably, in abridging another of his liberty, (equally indulged by providence to all) by his detainer; but promotes a crime in the seller: for were there none knaves enough to buy, no one could be tempted, by fraud, force, and every baser indignant means and artifice, to prey upon the liberty of his fellow creature.

O! I too late am sensible, said I, what the loss of liberty is; nor can this my present calamity be
other

other than a judgment upon me, for detaining, without the least remorse till now, so many poor captives in my bondage. But why rave I at this durance! This, or any thing within the compass of human endurance, would prove to me but as a matter of no weight, could I but with it enjoy my *Tyrrell*, my ever dearest husband!—How!—In bonds too! No, rather, if it must be so, let me singly sustain my destiny, himself in freedom, than ever live to see that doubly calamitous day, wherein I shall not only have myself, but him to grieve for.

Such were my daily, I may say hourly, soliloquies; when, after I had reduced myself to a perfect state of humility, by reflection upon my sorrows, I generally made my application to that Being, from whom alone I was to hope for relief; and that, perhaps, would just supply me with peace of mind sufficient for enabling me to undergo the return of a like conflict: so that my whole time was divided between hope and despair.

My master, after a few days stay in the kingdom of *Morocco*, wherein I presently understood that he was but a sojourner himself, prepared for his return to the kingdom of *Fez*, where he had a fine seat at *Ceuta*, with a large family of many servants.

I was mounted upon a camel, whereon I rode during the whole of our journey; and soon after our arrival, he presented me to a young lady, his only daughter, about twenty years old, as her immediate servant.

CHAP. XII.

An account of Polly's mistress and her family. Enter on the subject of love. Her lady recounts her amour. Discourse on religion. Sees Mr. Tyrrell amongst a drove of new slaves. Stratagem of her lady's to bring them together.

IF there can be supposed to be the least pleasure in servitude, surely, my lot was now fallen into that happy soil; for observing my new mistress to be of a most agreeable disposition, I made it my chief concern not only to understand what would be required of me as soon as possible; but also diligently to perform it: but as nothing was to be done, perfectly, till I should in some measure have acquired the language, I set myself more peculiarly to the study of that; the constant regard my good mistress paid me, spurring me forward in it with the greater alacrity. As I learnt more and more of the country tongue, I could perceive myself

myself more and more established in her favour, which it became me, at all events, to preserve; and I presently found out, that so long as I could retain her friendship, I might command the rest of the family; which kept me ever on my guard, against the least word, or action, that might be offensive to her.

My chief employment, at first, was only to keep her apartment clean, and to provide every thing in readiness for dressing her, and to be always within call; but in a short time this latter part of my duty only was required of me, all my remaining offices being transferred into other hands; and I began to be used meerly as a companion to my lady, which surely was one of the most delightful engagements on earth, and would have proved so to me, had it not been attended with compulsion, and the loss of my dear husband.

My master, having in his youth been bred a christian, had married a captive of that persuasion, by whom he had my young mistress; who from her mother, had imbibed as christianly knowledge and principles as myself could boast of; but still there was a tincture of her father's leaven in her, which favouring of mahometanism, would appear through the christian ground, like stains on the surface of a rich vestment, scarce to be scoured off, without a rent.

My master was seldom at home long at a time ; but sometimes would be in one place, sometimes in another ; and at all such times, my mistress commanded every thing. We had a garden, at a little distance from the house, with a terrace over-looking a small bay of the sea. Upon this my lady and I used frequently to divert ourselves by walking ; there was also without the garden-fence a waste piece of ground, wherein my master had caused a large basin to be dug, and kept a handsome vessel in it, for the pleasure of sailing into the bay, and fishing there ; and sometimes, in fine weather, he would venture a little way into the main with her ; my mistress and I always being of his party.

I had not served my lady above three or four months before she had fixed so thorough a confidence in me, that speaking of the state of slavery one day, and I saying that it was certainly a condition inconsistent with true happiness ; she, with a sigh, replied, that for her part, tho' no slave, she should never be happy, so long as she lived. Madam, said I, you very much surprize me. I should have thought it impossible for any thing to have discomposed a lady, who hath so indulgent a parent as you have ; for I told her I was satisfied her very wish might command every thing that she could require. O Mariana, said she, (for having

having informed her that my name was *Mary*, she always called me so) it is not having the abundance of every thing, that you call valuable, at command, that can make me happy; the one thing that I pine for, being absent, gives me more pain, than all my enjoyments can counterbalance; and that one thing is for ever unattainable.

I perceived, that there was somewhat smothered in her breast, which she had a longing inclination to disclose to me; but knew not well how to introduce it: so that having ever observed how agreeable it is for persons (overcharged with the secrets they want to disburthen themselves of) to be led, as it were, into the mention of them involuntarily; I made bold to ask her, whether it was not some matter of love, which she would not chuse to discover to my master, or what else it could be? Assuring her, that so far as I could possibly be assisting to her, (without prejudice to my master's property) she might but command my will, and be obey'd.

She then looking earnestly at me, as if to penetrate my thoughts by my countenance; *Mariana*, said she, you have formed a true judgment. You demand whether it is not a matter of love; I must confess to you that it is; but so circumstanced, that it can never be gratified: nay, it is out of all reason ever to hope that it should. I replied,

that then indeed I pitied her; for I told her I was enabled to do it, from my one example, once as impossible to all human comprehension, as her case could be: but yet, I at length obtained my desires, tho' now, said I, (and wept extravagantly) my wretched fate hath again separated us.

She observing me to weep so bitterly, longed, she said, to hear what had befallen me; for by my manner of expressing it, she could not but expect somewhat very peculiar in my story; desiring me to declare myself to her without reserve: for, said she, I have an heart, *Mariana*, peculiarly turned for commiseration, to any one who hath been disappointed in the subject of love, and can indulge myself for ever, over their tale.

I then told her all that had befallen me previous to my marriage; and that my present captivity had deprived me of that fond husband, whose loss I had heretofore so long bewailed under my prior difficulties.

Mariana, said she, I am touched with a sensible feeling for your distress, and was I sure of success, would willingly yield you to the arms of the man who has so meritoriously deserved you; but how to get you conveyed to *England* to him, or which way to go about it, I am ignorant as you are. O that we were both in the embraces of the men we love!

love ! You must consider, *Mariana*, and let that afford you some comfort, that tho' I am mistress, and yourself a slave, and on that score may think yourself unhappy ; yet I am no less so. Your fate may alter, and if I can procure it, shall ; but I am condemned to perpetual craving for what I can never be gratified in.

Dear madam, said I, you cannot but be sensible, from what I have declared to you of my own condition, that I must be sincerely affected for your unhappiness ; then keep it not a secret from me, it may be within my compass, tho' a slave, to redress you ; at least to mitigate your anguish, by participation, if nothing more.

O ! *Mariana*, said she, hear me patiently ; and pardon my weakness. You have an heart, prepared by sufferings, for construing favourably my foible, (if a foible it can be, to love to excess the most desirable of the human species, and that, not without the most delectable return.) But what can I say, that it is not testified by action ; save that his liberty, nay his life, is at stake, should he attempt it ; not but that I am satisfied, the loss of liberty would prove no bar, could he with it enjoy my sight and conversation only ; but even that, in such a case, could not be hoped for.

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In short, said she, my misfortune is this. My father is sole owner of a vessel which coasts these seas in quest of christian prizes; and by that means, and by traffick for slaves, has acquired all his wealth. In one of these prizes, about two years since, was taken a *Spanish* officer, in his passage from *Majorca* to *Cadiz*, as he was returning with part of his regiment from their duty in that island.

They all became slaves to my father. This officer bearing a more than common port and majesty, my father kept him for his own use, near his person; but such dignity appeared in his every action, as proclaimed the sublimity of his soul, above the vulgar rate of mortals; and ill became the captivity he was compelled to submit to.

My eye was never off this officer, upon every opportunity that I could seize to be near him; when meeting the most grateful returns, for each little favour that it was in my power to distinguish him by; the charming manner of his silent address on such occasions, captivated my heart so absolutely, as to leave him no room to doubt of the conquest he had made: but far from slighting his victory, he repaid my passion with the most ardent sincerity of affection; nor did he slip the lightest opportunity of expressing his regard for me:

me: nay, even when a ransom was brought for purchasing his freedom, had it not been with my consent, and for fear of involving me in his distress, he would have refused his discharge, for the sake only of being near my person; but vowed to me, that if ever I could escape to him, he would receive me as his wife, with no other portion than my person.

He left me, said she, but few weeks before my father brought you to me; and had I not found in your person, the most agreeable companion I ever met with of my own sex, and in whom I can repose my confidence, I had scarce survived my sorrow till this time.

My lady having finished her relation: well! *Mariana*, said she, now you have heard my story, what more can you minister than pity, towards my relief? I fear that is the most that will ever be either in yours, or any other mortal's power to perform for me; nor can I ever submit to be the wife of another man; for whilst I feed any hopes upon the prospect of his remaining constancy, I retain a secret pleasure in bearing an equal, if not superior, share in his torment, for our separation; and so that I may but end my days belov'd by him, my ambition will have arrived at its highest pitch, that I have room even to hope for,

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Now, *Mariana*, must it not be allowed to be a melancholy reflection, for a young creature, capable of rendering the sole object of her desires compleatly blest, both by her person and fortune, to look forward through an age of misery and unavoidable distress without him; for my circumstances are incapable of the least alleviation; and as I can sooner cease to be, than cease to love; while that remains, this must be its constant attendant. What still exposes me to more infelicity is, that the only thing which could ever introduce his acceptance with my father, is that alone, which, were it possible, would procure him my scorn and hatred. Then judge what a precipice I stand on, condemned to perpetual absence from him, but on such conditions as would render him odious to me.

I begged pardon for my impertinence; but was at a loss, I told her, for the knowledge of those conditions, which gaining him, would still divert her affection from him.

I mean, said she, his renouncing his christianity, and embracing mahometanism; for as myself could freely make my election for that, so neither can I, by any means consent to his entertaining this. I am but too well apprized of the difference between them, nor have I ever yet
known

known a renegado from that, who hath not even exceeded (in rancour against the true christian) those who from a series of ancestors, have made their prophets tenets their original profession.

My father's example, not to mention others, fully justifies my opinion; who having once departed from his faith (tho' I am sensible he has his uneasy moments for it) in order to justify his proceedings in the eye of the world, and that he may appear to have acted from meer conviction, is twice as rigid in his false principles, as a natural born disciple of *Mahomet*.

I am amazed, said I, madam, at your talking thus. Most persons, of whatever principles, according to their several educations, seem true adherents to them, and despise all others; nay it mostly happens, that even those who are furnished with but scanty reasons for maintaining their own professions, are nevertheless armed with arguments enough against all others. It surprizes me, therefore, that you should deviate so much from the general rule, as to condemn your own.

Mariana, said she, I might perhaps have been able to have given you better reasons for what I say, had my mother survived till this time; but young as I was at her death, she had improved my mind all that was in her power; and in several
debates

debates between my father and her, on this topick, perceiving my father's deficiency of argument, from principles convictive of my reason; my judgment always inclined me to the side of seeming truth, and for avoiding those errors, which I palpably discovered, that my father could not (with equal force) maintain. Yet far from perfect, in the knowledge of what I studiously sought after, at my mother's death; I have since omitted no opportunity of discoursing with the most sensible, as I thought, of our christian captives; some of whom, tho' very ignorant in their own faith, yet others I have found, capable of affording me such conviction, as all my father's precepts have not been able to shake; nor can any unprejudiced person, in my opinion, impartially put both religions to the trial, without favouring yours, and despising ours. Wonder not, therefore, that I am not mahometan in my heart; but, woe is me! that I have not opportunity of declaring myself as I would.

My master having been for sometime at *Sallee*, to make up the account of his shipping there, brought home with him many new captives, of both sexes, to the number of sixty-five, of several different christian nations, which were to be distributed about into the neighbouring countries, as he should find purchasers for them; (he being always largely stocked himself) and my lady hearing

ing of his coming, took me with her into an apartment which commanded the court, through which himself and slaves were to pass; and where she told me, that at their first arrival they were all muster'd, called over, and separated; some to one apartment, some to another, under the care of their proper overseers.

It was an heart-breaking sight to me to behold so many poor miserable christians, treated like dogs, and under as much command to those vile infidels; but yet, curiosity inviting me to be a spectator of their management of them, I still kept my post, as they made their marches and counter-marches, to shew their number to be compleat; but what was my confusion and horror, when (being all drawn up fronting the window we were looking from, to be draughted out to their respective cells) I beheld the face of my dearest *Tyrrell* amongst the captives. I had but just time to give a low shriek, before unable longer to sustain my body, I sunk upon the floor as dead.

My young lady, *Zaphbarrak*, (for that was her name) was under such immense concern for me, not being able to surmise the occasion of my disorder, that she scarce knew how to proceed for my recovery; but loath to call in help; after trying several methods by herself, I began to shew signs

signs of life, and through her kind assistance returned to my senses again ; when impatient for the cause of my illness, *Mariana*, said *Zaphbarrak*, what was the reason of your so sudden swooning ? Was it at the sight of so many of your fellow christians reduced to our obedience ? I cannot blame you. I have heard that you behave otherwise to us, on occasion of captives, and am sorry to have any eye a spectator of our barbarism.

O, dear lady ! replied I, the sight indeed was terrible enough ; but, O ! my interest in it distracts me. I am not able to express it. O ! what shall I say ! how can I deliver myself ! O, madam ! I saw my husband amongst the captives. Surely, you rave, replied she. We were at too great a distance, critically to distinguish faces ; especially in the condition they are all in at present, covered with dust and sweat, and rags, wherein one man might be so like another, as to deceive you.

I was so exceedingly vexed at what my lady said, that I could but with difficulty restrain my passion. Madam, said I, had your *Spanish* officer been there, could you have been deceived ? What is dirt and sweat, or any more meditated disguise, against the penetrating eye of love ? Forgive me, *Mariana*, said the dear creature, I will believe you. I think I could not have been deceived myself in such a case.

For heaven's sake! dear madam, said I, what can be done to procure me but the speech of him; for you know it will be the price of my life but to go near him? O! that I might but feast my eyes on him, if nothing more! Then, fearing lest I should grow impertinent, I fell upon my knees; pardon, dear madam, said I, a fond heart, that cannot but overflow on this occasion. I am sensible it is no subject proper for me to disturb you with; but, madam, you know what it is to love, and can pity me. May providence conduct you to your utmost wishes, as you now tender my felicity, and assist me to obtain the sight, the speech, the embrace, (but for a moment) of my dearest husband.

Zaphsharrak herself wept. I wish to heaven *Los Cardos*, (which was the name of the Spanish officer) said she, was but so near to me, as your *Tyrrell* (for I had told her his name) is to you: I would exchange conditions with you, *Mariana*, to be so blest; tho' he were but in the number of the miserable captives: but you may be happy, nay shall be so, as far as my power can contribute to it; I never shall. Come, come, cheer up; this temper (for I was weeping ready to break my heart) is by no means proper for recollection. We must be calm when we are to deliberate on nice affairs. Rage and distraction should only
succeed

succeed to disappointment. We have hope before us, but reason be our guide, or the issue can never be prosperous.

I acknowledged the justness of her argument, I told her; but was she as interested as myself, I said, she would be subject to the like emotion of her spirits, which was what we could not at pleasure subdue. I told her, that the hurry of my present passions obtruded suggestions so thick upon my senses, that I was as yet disqualified for serious reflection; and begg'd her to consider of some steps for my gratification.

Zaphsharrak paused a while. I know not how, said she, to demand him for my service; lest my father, who is all jealousy, should suspect somewhat, and more certainly remove him from my knowledge; nor must you in the least be seen in it.—How can I contrive to let him know how I would have him act?—Possibly, he may not understand me should I speak to him.

Madam, said I, let me go with you and speak to him. Be silent, said she; can you figure me out a few *English* words to deliver to him; for possibly he may not, as yet, be able to understand me. O! as many as ever you please, madam, said I; but why may not I go with you? Let me ask you, said she, could you restrain your temper; from demonstrating

monstrating the least affection for him, when in your sight and company? Or if you could put such a force upon your inclination, imagine you that he would, unless forewarned?

I felt my error, instantly, and confessed her discernment; but all impatience, demanded what words would be proper for me to teach her? I want but, said she, to have him know my mind, what answer he should make, to a question that will be demanded of the new slaves in general. I comprehend you, madam, said I.—Let me write a letter, and send him, dear madam, that will do. Child, said my lady, should I suffer you to run on in your own way, you would undo yourself. Where will you get materials for writing? Who will you get to carry it? How deliver it privately? You know nothing. Indeed, *Mariana*, you are a meer novice in the affairs of love.—Your own heart, child, says she, is honest and open, and you are for the strait path to happiness: but it is not enough to know yourself, you must judge for every one around you, and having dived into the depth of their probable conjectures, yourself act on a directly contrary principle, or you will never succeed.

Have you no pen and ink, madam, said I? She replied, no. Nor paper? Nor pencil? No, still; for her father having once suspected her of mis-
using

using them, on the *Spaniard's* account, had forbidden them ever since.

I shall grow wild, said I; what? nothing to write with, or upon? After some search I found a manuscript, with a spare leaf at the end of it, and with the head of a large pin, I wrote, according to her directions, that I was near him; that his sight of me depended upon his professing himself to be skilled in designing and gardening; whenever the question should be put amongst the slaves.

Those words I traced over and over, with the pin head, till they became very legible; and then delivered the paper to my lady; who promised me to make use of it the first opportunity.

The next day, at dinner-time, my lady told her father, that there was a ruinous piece of ground without his fence, next the basin, where she should much delight to walk of an evening, being a great lover of the water; but that it was so rude, as to deter her from it; and that she should take great pleasure in laying out, and disposing of it into some agreeable form or other; and that if any one of his new slaves were skilled that way, and able to undertake such a work, she would make bold to beg him for that purpose.

My

My master replied, that it having been several times in his mind to convert the spot she spoke of into some pleasurable form; if she would oversee the work, he would submit it wholly to her management to dispose it as she pleased; and that she might enquire, whether any one of the new men were capable of it; and if so, to separate him from the rest, who would be sent to market in a few days.

My mistress then took the pains to visit the several wards, and ordered each overseer to cause all the men in his care to pass before her, desiring him to call them over by name, in the order they should appear to her; but she heard no such name as *Tyrrell*, in the two first wards; and now there being but one ward more to examine, my lady feared, that either I had been mistaken, or that Mr. *Tyrrell* had given in a wrong name, and that then she should have far more difficulty to find him than she had imagined; but in the last ward, the sixth name most agreeably surprized her with the sound of *Tarle*; which being somewhat near the right, and none of the rest (for she suffered them all to be called over) any ways answering, she could not believe but that *Tarle* must be the man. Having therefore remarked him in her mind, she crept up pretty close to him; what is your name said she to one? and then to another?

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when his reply being *Tyrrell*; she was reduced to a certainty. She then turned several of them about, and handling them as a purchaser would do, informed the keeper, that she was to have one of them; tho' in such a number, her choice was so confounded, that she knew not where to fix; but would consider of it, and come again.

In handling of *Tyrrell*, amongst the several parties, she privately slipt the paper into his hand; and at the same time, looking him into silence, retired. She that very day informed my master that she was so fickle in the choice of the slave he promised her, that tho' she had seen them all, yet she could not conclude which to take; desiring his assistance and judgment to direct her.

My master commending her for referring the election to him; as soon as ever dinner was over, gave orders for all the male slaves to be brought before him, into the inner court; when he caused it to be demanded aloud, which of them all had most knowledge in gardening affairs? For he told her, that should he chuse one, who had no genius that way, he would prove of but little service to her.

My mistress, not doubting this would be her father's opinion as well as her own, admitted that to be very true, seeming highly pleased, that her
father

father had hit upon so just an expedient. Upon proclamation made, *Tyrrell* and one more offered themselves, as having perfect skill in those matters.

The number being now reduced to two only, her father pitched upon the other man, as most robust, and properest for labour; being much stronger built than *Tyrrell* was; and it being difficult, from appearances, to form the least objection to her father's choice, she feared that all had been unhinged: till bethinking herself of an expedient, she replied, that now there were but two of them to examine, and there being several parts of the art of gardening, she should be glad to know, to which branch of the profession each had been most accustomed.

My master approving of that proposal, put the question to his own nominee first; who replied, that he had mostly been occupied in digging, planting, and sowing, for kitchen uses.

My mistress then making the same demand of *Tyrrell*; he answered, that true it was, he had not been much exercised in the more servile parts of gardening, tho' in theory he was perfectly acquainted with them; but that his chief employ had been in laying out and designing rude grounds to the best advantage, for beauty and delight; and in planning for others to execute; but that as his

lot had now placed him in a more laborious sphere, he made no doubt, but he should be able to perform the manual part also, as well as any other person.

Daughter, said my master, (after a short pause) I see not how you can pursue your design to effect, without an head to devise, as well as an hand to execute; and as I myself have an interest in the performance, I think you shall set them both to work. It is no small spot, and will find them employment, even after they shall have brought it to perfection, in keeping it so. Well then, I allot them both to the business; and let this (pointing to *Taverner*, for that was his name) labour under the direction of that (*Tyrrell*).

Our two new gardeners were then separated from the rest of the slaves, and received their appointed allowance by themselves, till my mistress should see proper to employ them.

My dear lady almost flew to bring me the good news; and was so full of it when we met, that she could not deliver herself, with the least regular coherence; however, I soon perceived the business was effectually compleated.

I fell upon my knees, embraced hers, and had I been able, would have express'd my gratitude in
still

still higher strains; tho' she was wholly recompenced by the satisfaction she received, from having perfected an obliging act to us; and I then asked her, when she thought I should be blest with a sight of my husband?

She told me she had been considering of that; and had resolved to order him to be conducted singly to the intended new garden as the next morning; and to be left there till she came to give him instructions relating to the ground; when taking me with her, she would give us some time together, while herself would retire to the inner garden. You may be as private as you please there, said she, but must not detain me from Mr. Tyrrell's company above an hour.

I promised, over and over, that I would not; but would certainly introduce her to him, in that time; and accordingly, next morning, we obtained the so much desired interview: but surely, there is no recollection of time, in the intercourse of lovers; for we had been together full three hours, before I had the least power to stir from him; and when I did, the moment of our separation, seemed like tearing the soul from the body; tho' as I had promised my mistress to be punctual, I was resolved to be rather within my time, as I really thought, than in the least to exceed it.

Judge, (if it be possible) ye who shall read this story; if it be possible, I say: for unless you have ever been exercised in the like scene, it is next to impossible for you to conceive the extasies of two fond hearts, entirely free, open, and disengaged from all reserve to each other, and no ways restrained by those formal rules, to which the single state is liable. Imagine but each soul blending with the other, and the passage becomes wholly indescribable; no words being able to reach the sublimity of our conceptions, nor sense significant of our transports, at the mutual embrace of each other. I shall therefore waive a subject too refined for my enlarging on, and only add, that each glance, each sigh, each speech, each touch, of either, convey'd to the other an immensity of happiness.

CHAP.

C H A P. XIII.

Polly and Tyrrell part. He is to lay out a plot of ground. Description of his design. Escape to Malaga with Zaphsharrak their master's daughter. Gain intelligence of Zaphsharrak's lover Los Cardos, and sail after him to Leghorn.

WHILST Tyrrell and I had been thus immers'd in felicity ; my poor lady had quite tired herself with waiting for my return ; but no sooner did she perceive me moving towards her, than she began, with you are a most punctual observer of time, *Mariana*, are you not ? Dear madam, replied I, have I exceeded ? Why, I have been with him but a moment. No less than three full hours, said she, have I been waiting for you. Impossible ! replied I, pardon me, madam, you must be mistaken. Nay, as it was the first interview, after so long an absence, I myself, in your place, might have done no less, said the charming lady ; but come, now you shall present me to him, that I may judge of his worthiness, by more than bare report.

I had before prepared *Tyrell* for this visit ; so that he was at no loss how to begin his compliments. First, for her concern for me, since I had been hers ; then for the late interview ; but, above all, for the joy she had imparted to him, by her contrivance, to establish him so near his beloved wife ; which could no otherwise have succeeded, he believed ; for that himself, with the rest of his fellow prisoners, were in a day or two to have been driven inland for sale.

Zaphsharrak replied, that love so sincere as she was assured mine was to him, and doubted not was equally returned by him, could not be permitted, by her, to languish, so soon as it came into her power to relieve it. That she wished us both much happier, than it was possible for her, in our present conditions, to make us ; then, with a sigh, (turning from him) O ! said she, that my own felicity was no less compleat ! but, (turning to him again) sir, said she, that the slight enjoyment you and your spouse can have of each other, in this place, may be as lasting as possible ; it behoves us to do somewhat more than talk. Know you, that it is expected by my father, this plot of ground where we now stand, which encompasses that basin of water, so far as you see, should be improved from the rude state it now appears in,

to

to that elegance of taste, which he presumes, your skill can undoubtedly raise it to.

Mr. Tyrrell replied, that from the paper she had delivered to him, and upon his examination by herself, and his master, he did apprehend, that somewhat of garden-work was to be prosecuted. He owned that he was but a bad hand at labour, having never yet been put upon any thing of that kind; but being in possession of a large track of exceedingly well-disposed ground of his own in *England*, and having made many curious observations upon the works of others; if *Taverner* (as he had reported) could but execute the manual part with dexterity, he would not despair from his own fancy (unless she had designed it already by any particular plan) of rendering it a most beautiful spot; for that he then observed it to be capable of such improvement, as when compleated, would have a most delightful effect.

My lady replied, that she would entirely leave the direction of it to him; but hoped, that he would let her into his design, so soon as he had thoroughly formed it; that she might be able to give her father a description of what it would appear to be, when finished. This he having promised her to do the next morning, she said, she would leave us together for a moment longer, and would bring me with her again next day.

Tyrrell and I were unable to declare, by any expressions adequate, our sense of so much benignity, as appeared in every of my lady's thoughts and actions, for our satisfactions; nor was she ignorant of it, from the means we used to avouch it; which gave her an inexpressible delight; and the kind creature assured me on our return, that next to her own gratification, she took the most consummate pleasure in ours.

The ground, which was to be improved, consisted of about two hundred yards in length, just in the shape of an half-quarter moon; one side of the bason, which I have before mentioned, being hallowed out of the middle of it; and the points of the two horns were the extremity of the ground. The body of this moon, (as I call it) was about eighty yards deep, from the outer rim of its disk, to the bason; but the outer verge was by no means regular, being very much indented; so *Mr. Tyrrell* informed my mistress, that he purposed to plant a regular hedge, at the distance of ten yards from the inmost part of the indenting, quite round the moon, from horn to horn, in a semicircle; and without that, another hedge, at the remotest distance from the first, that the ground would admit of; in each of which hedges he purposed a plantation of trees, to shade over the whole walk between.

He said, that just in the middle of this walk, he purposed an opening in both hedges, whereon he would erect a square temple, open at each side, for a communication of one-half of the walk, with the other, and for a passage into the semicircular ground, above the bason; the whole area of which ground he purposed to lay down into one plot of grass, with an easy slope every way to the bason; and upon each horn of the half moon, he designed a summer house, for the convenience of angling in the bason, as he gave out to my lady, but really, with the reserved view, as he explained himself to me, of sometimes privately entertaining me there.

He further acquainted my lady, that when all was compleated according to his plan, nothing would seem more pleasurable, than to stand in the centre of the temple, and view the little vessel, (which upon proper occasions might be adorned with streamers, and have all its sails set) at anchor, just in the centre of the bason, where he purposed to have it fixed.

Zaphbarrak had no sooner made herself mistress of Tyrrell's plan, than she ran to her father, and expatiated upon it to him, extolling the ingenuity of her new gardener to the skies. She obtained leave for the two summer houses and temple to

be built out of hand, while the rest of the work proceeded; and nothing now was thought of but the gardening scheme.

My lady was so good as to divert herself best part of each day there, meerly for the sake of my enjoying my husband's company, which I could at no time have taken by day-light, without her; and no sooner were the summer houses compleated, than she permitted me to spend the night with him there frequently.

The first thing *Tyrrell* went upon, as to the garden-plantation, was setting the double hedges; when *Taverner* and he keeping a perfect understanding together, they wrought at it with all their might; for they were a screen against being overlooked any where, but in the walk; which being of itself semicircular, no great length of that was to be taken in at one view; so that now, having proceeded so far as to render the place convenient for our purpose, *Tyrrell* was less anxious for making a speedy progress in the rest.

We soon perceived, that if we meant to have long private conferences together, we must let *Taverner* into our secret; for he being a very sober and sensible man, we found that we might put a confidence in him: so that it was only setting him at such a distance above us, between the hedges,
to

to give a signal; and my husband and I were secure from the knowledge and sight of every one.

Time, the worker of great discoveries, having (by frequent intercourse) cemented *Zaphbarrak's* affection to me; and she almost envying me the satisfaction that I took in my husband's conversation, no small part of which had passed in her own presence; she put it to me one day, whether I thought *Tyrrell* might be persuaded to attempt his escape, if he could contrive any probable means of effecting it, under her secrecy? I could not well tell what to answer; for such a demand, from any other person than herself, and especially from a master's daughter, I should have looked upon but as an ensnaring question; yet, I was so far from suspecting her of fraud or deceit, that I scarce hesitated at replying; that undoubtedly liberty was so sweet, and especially to a man of *Mr. Tyrrell's* fortune in life, that there was little question to be conceived, but he would be for making the experiment. in case the means proposed were feasible; but how any expedient could be devised for the purpose, I confessed to be beyond my comprehension.

She asked me, whether I would propose it to him, and take his advice in it? For, said she, *Mariana*, whatever good opinion we may have of our own invention, as to the affairs of love, which
are

are what chiefly fall within our province; yet, when any bold enterprize is in hand, there is nothing like the council and conduct of the other sex, to bring such schemes to perfection. You know where to find him, put the question to him; and for his encouragement, let him know, that myself will accompany him; so that he need be in no fear of perishing for want, in our travels. I will take that with me, which shall effectually support us in our journey.

I found *Tyrrell* in the walk, and led him forward to one of the summer houses; but my agitation, for the consequences of the message I brought him, had roused such a train of thoughts in me, that he took notice of it, and asked me, what accident had induced my unaccustomed seriousness.

I began to unfold my errand to him, in the very way that my lady had committed it to me; and now, my dear, said I, what are your thoughts on this head? He was silent for some minutes; then replying; *Polly*, said he, it is to be done; but not by us three alone.—We must engage *Taverner*; and in case he joins us, I shall not doubt of a prosperous issue.—Say no more of it at present;—leave me to my reflections to-night.—Enquire when my master will return (for he was then upon a tour),

and

and do you and your lady give me a meeting, in this place, to-morrow.

I returned to *Zaphbarrak* with Mr. *Tyrrell's* answer, and with violent impatience, we both waited the appointed hour, wherein we expected his resolution. We had sketched out in our own minds some monstrous long walk; with secreting ourselves in the woods; lying in the weather; and feeding like the birds and beasts. In short, we had painted such a scene of horrors on our imaginations, of what would befall us by the way, that when we had considered ourselves, as not only exposed to those several inconveniencies, but also to what was still far worse, being surprized in our flight, and recalled to sustain those severities which would undeniably await our return; our very bloods chilled in our veins, at the shock of it, and we then expected, that our project must have dropt on course.

Whilst we had been engaged most part of the night, (for I constantly lay with my mistress when disengaged from my husband) in those and the like speculations, which had left us just as wise as they found us; Mr. *Tyrrell*, had with better success stated his notions to *Taverner*, and gained his assurance, in life or death, to second his efforts; so that when we met Mr. *Tyrrell*, the next day, in the summer house, he beginning first, our string
of

of arguments all vanished like smoke ; for he delivered himself in such clear probabilities, that we should now have been more puzzled to have opposed his convictions, than we had been in clearing up our own scruples.

He informed us, that he had gained over *Taverner* to our party, with very little difficulty ; and as for the means of escape, said he, as no one hath any authority over either of us, but yourself, madam ; and as our duty engages us in this detached post, from the rest of the family ; be it our first care, by the best means we can, to collect a supply of victuals and drink, for a week or ten days at least ; for fear of accidents. About three nights hence we shall have a full moon ; for our first assay must be in the night. In the meantime, *Taverner* and I will put the vessel in sailing order ; and if we have but any thing of a wind to carry us into the main sea, I make no doubt of soon landing at *Gibraltar*, or on some part of the *Spanish* coast.

He then desired my lady to return, and give orders for a sack of corn to be brought him, upon pretence that he wanted to sow a large spot of his ground with it ; and also to order him and *Taverner* three days provisions, they not being able to leave their work. He told us, that himself would provide

provide water, and providence, he was perswaded, would guide us.

My lady and I took our orders, and saw them punctually executed that very day; and my husband and *Taverner*, having prepared every thing in readiness before the second ensuing evening, we set sail, and before morning had almost lost all sight of the *Barbary* shore; but for want of skill in maritime affairs, and of a chart, (tho' *Taverner* understood plain sailing reasonably well) instead of landing at *Gibraltar*, at the end of our voyage, as we hoped to have done, we had driven eastward, as far as *Malaga*, and there we went on shore.

Just before we quitted the vessel, Mr. *Tyrrell* started a difficulty, which staggered us all, not a little. We are now, said he, near our port; but what figures think you we shall make there, in our present circumstances? How shall we gain credit, of being what we really are? I am more than a little suspicious, of some ill accident here: for, methinks, we shall land in a very unpromising way.

I would advise, for myself to go on shore first, before it can be known who is on board; and applying to the magistrate, with the true state of our case, beg leave to put ourselves under his protection. He did so, and having told him we were catholicks, for that was the first question he demanded

manded of him, we were all permitted to land; nor was it an hour, after it was known in the town who we were, before offers were made us for our vessel, which we accepting, that put us into cash, for purchasing such things as we stood in need of in that country.

After a stay of about five days at *Malaga*, we hired beasts for *Madrid*; and here it was that *Zaphsharrak* first opened her packet, wherein was abundance of gold and jewels, to a very considerable value. Here we cloathed ourselves in somewhat better garbs; but it was a vast disadvantage to us, that of all the different country languages, we could by this time talk, amongst us, the *Spanish* was not one of them. So that we were obliged to contract for an interpreter, as we had before done at *Malaga*.

Our first business (for we did not imagine that *Spain* would be discharged of us for one while, since we had *Los Cardos* to find out before we left it) was, to write to Mr. *Tyrrell's* correspondent in *London*, to whom he had ordered his effects from *Jamaica* to be consigned annually, for bills on some body at *Madrid*; being willing to let *Zaphsharrak* see, by our remittances, that we were no less considerable persons than we had pretended to be; and then (taking our interpreter with him) Mr. *Tyrrell* procured admission to some of the soldiery,

diery, with whom he daily conversed, in hopes of finding out who *Los Cardos* was, and to what corps he belonged; but all his search proved ineffectual. The name was known by several of them, but the person to none; nor could he gain the least intelligence of his rank in the army, or of what standing.

This enquiry continued some weeks amongst the senior officers, as he was directed from one to another; but nothing forwarded in his search, he then consoled with the juniors, with as little success, having almost deserted the cause as desperate; when by meer chance, one day, falling into company with an officer who had been stationed at *Majorca*, he remembered him very well; and told Mr. *Tyrell*, that *Los Cardos* was made a captain, on his going upon that duty; that he stayed there with him almost three years, and was upon his return reported to have been taken by a *Barbary* rover; but what became of him afterwards, he never heard. He added, that the only place for gaining information of him was, at the war-office, where it would be known, if ever he had returned to claim his pay; and there he might also be assured, whether he was still in commission or not; for he said the regiment, which *Los Cardos* was in, was broke upon their landing.

Mr.

Mr. Tyrrell acquainted *Zaphsharrak* of the progress he had made; who expressed great satisfaction at the news; for not only herself, but indeed all of us began to suspect that *Los Cardos*, whoever he was, was only a nominal, not a real, officer; but now we had a strong scent to trace, and were in hopes of making somewhat of it.

Upon Mr. Tyrrell's enquiry at the war-office, he gained the additional account, that his pay had been received by procuration from him, and that he was then upon the establishment. That he was originally of *English* extraction, from a family in *Somersetshire*, of the name of *Card*: but arriving in *Spain*, where he had settled in a merchant's compting house; his genius soon withdrawing him from that into the army, he had taken upon himself the name of *Cardos*. He was further informed, that his last procuration for his pay was dated at *Florence* in *Italy*, where it was supposed that he then was.

This was as much as we could expect to hear of him; but was what created *Zaphsharrak* infinite uneasiness; insomuch, that tho' every other motive prest our return to *England*, I could not endure to behold a person to whose beneficence I stood indebted for all that was valuable to me in life, (the best of husbands, and my liberty) thus discon-

disconsolate ; when I judged it to be in my power, tho' at ever so great inconvenience to myself, to contribute to her repose.

I took notice to her, that her me'ancholy, from day to day, affected me beyond measure ; that I could no longer bear it with any tolerable patience ; and that as I suspected she had an inclination to follow *Los Cardos* to *Florence*, if she would declare that to be her desire, and would but keep up her spirits, and not deject herself so as she did, I would engage Mr. *Tyrrell* to accompany her thither, as I also would ; and that, if it was possible, I would make her as happy as myself : for, said I, your generous concern for uniting me to Mr. *Tyrrell*, has fixed so lasting an obligation upon me, that as your sorrow shall ever be mine, so no less shall your satisfaction.

Zaphbarrak seized my hand, and in rapture, kissing me ; my dearest, Mrs. *Tyrrell*, said she, can you indulge me so far, as to accompany me to *Florence* ? I assured her that it was my intent, and I had no fear, but that Mr. *Tyrrell*'s generous spirit would incline him to the same ; whatever detriment it might prove to his own affairs : for added I, till we are all settled to our wish, or at least in the best manner we can propose to ourselves, I shall never esteem myself to be discharged from the duty I owe to my dear mistress. O !

Mrs.

Mrs. Tyrrell, said she, you shame me—we are not in *Barbary* now.—Pray let me hear no more of any distinction amongst us.—You are my sister, my friend; but a better part of myself, and I shall ever regard you as myself.

We had hitherto lived, first upon the sale of our vessel, (which did little more than procure us some ordinary cloathing, and pay our journey to *Madrid*) and then upon *Zaphsbarrak's* stock, to which we were wholly as welcome as herself; but now *Tyrrel* received remittances from *England*, for two thousand pounds; when *Zaphsbarrak* was so cast down, to think that such persons as we, who could command all that wealth to follow us, half over the globe, upon a letter only, should have been slaves in her family; that not only for herself, but for her father, we thought she would never have ended her excuses.

Mr. Tyrrell, tho' no man could have a stronger propensity for home than he had, after so fugitive a life as we had led; yet had that tenderness in his nature, and compliance to all that would delight me, that he never once scrupled the voyage; but lodging such part of his money as we should not have occasion for till our return, together with *Zaphsbarrak's* effects, in the hands of a banker at *Madrid*, we took shipping at *Barcelona* for *Leghorn*, and from thence arrived safe at *Florence*.

C H A P.

C H A P. XIV.

Arrive at Florence. Los Cardos has left Italy.

Stay at Florence. Taverner leaves them. Re-

turn for Spain. Shipwreck'd on the island Myeres.

Meeting of Polly and Tyrrell. Go off in a boat.

Taken on shipboard. Arrive at Toulon.

WE were now entered upon a new work; but it was some time before we could trace out our game in the city of *Florence*; and when we did, we at the same time received the mortifying news, that he had left *Italy*, for *England* or *Spain*, about a month before our arrival there.

This unlucky accident quite disconcerted all our measures; our labour was lost, and O! had we but gone for *England* directly, we had met him! was all the cry with us women. However, as we were now in a city which afforded us such variety of amusement, we would not leave unnoticed, what many travel so far purposely for the pleasure of beholding: and Mr. Tyrrell being somewhat of a connoisseur in paintings, statuary, and antique curiosities, (having many fine pieces of his own, performed by some of the best *Italian* masters)

he

he was more than ordinary inquisitive into their stile and manner of expression, to form the better judgment of the value of his own : so that we spent some weeks at *Florence*, *Pisa*, and parts adjacent, before we could prevail on him to return.

I should have given you a word of our companion *Taverner*, who was a native of the northern parts of *England*. As he had been our companion in flight, we had equal regard to him, as to ourselves; and we cloathed him as Mr. *Tyrell* himself was: so that in every respect, he fared as we did, till we had taken the resolution for *Florence*; when he, not having the same obligations to *Zaphsharrak* as we had, seemed rather inclinable to make the best of his way home, than to take the trip with us, had he had wherewithal to have born his charges. This Mr. *Tyrell* discovering, told him, that tho' he should be welcome, as our fellow-traveller, to take his chance with us, and live as we did; yet if he rather choose to return to *England*, he would present him with an hundred pounds, for his expences. This offer proving by far the more eligible to him, as well as serviceable, he left us, just before our departure from *Madrid*.

We were now reimbarcked for *Barcelona* again, that we might pass through *Madrid* to secure our treasure

treasure deposited there; but it grieved Mr. Tyrrell and me to the heart, that our voyage had not proved more prosperous to poor *Zaphsharrak*: for she bore the disappointment but badly; not only for missing *Los Cardos*, but for that she had occasioned us so unnecessary a journey and delay.

We had now no further view in hand than just touching at *Spain*, and away for *England*; and in high spirits we were ourselves; nor omitted any artifice in our powers to elevate the desponding heart of our fellow-traveller: but the inward grief, that rankled in her breast, would break through every studied composure of her countenance, so often; that we could not but observe, and blame her for it.

We had not been many days at sea, having an excellent ship under us, and busking away before the wind, before a southerly gale freshen'd upon us, and encreasing by continuance, had forced us more northerly than we could have wished; so that we were within view of the southern coast of *France*. We did all that we could to keep out more southward; but the wind blowing a meer storm all night, we could by no art bear up against it, and before morning, in spite of all our endeavours to the contrary, we were cast upon the island *Hyeret*; where the ship splitting, was instantly dashed to pieces. We had, as many

of us as well could, jump into the boat, at the first shock she received, not being fifty yards, as we guessed from shore, it being then pitch dark; but the waves ran so high, that the boat, unable to live in them, was cast with prodigious violence upon the sands; which shock had thrown us, as I thought, all out of her; and the returning wave, carried her, as I presume, to sea again.

Zaphsharrak and I, frightened to death, clung fast by each other; nor did we separate in the overthrow: but before we could well think that we had felt land under us, we were carried back again by the reflux of a wave, and then I quite lost my senses; but still, as it happened, retained my hold of *Zaphsharrak*.

Instantly we were cast upon the sands again; when the next wave falling short of us, *Zaphsharrak* having regained her feet, with all her force, drew me up after her still higher from the water; but had much ado to withstand the succeeding wave, for it having raised me up, sucked so prodigiously against my cloaths, that she had even despaired of holding me.

She had strained so hard, in opposition to the force of the water, that her feet were sunk up to the middle in ouze; so that she could no ways extract either of them, but by prodigious struggling

gling, and quitting her shoes to the sand. At length she drew me up by degrees, till we were both above the wash of the billows, when she first began to turn her concern to our companions; but it was so dark that she could scarce see her hand, any other way than against the water.

Being able to discover no body near her but me, whom she verily thought to have been dead; she wrung her hands, tore her hair, and became almost distracted, to think what would become of her. She called as loud as ever she could for Mr. Tyrrell; but no one answered her, nor indeed could she have heard them if they had, for the violent roaring of the wind and waters. However being, as she imagined, out of danger from the latter, but almost chill'd to death, by the wind and her wet cloaths; she sat down upon the sands by me, who then lay at her feet; and raising my head, laid it on her lap; but I felt all over to her touch, like a dead corps; till thrusting her hand down my stomach, she perceived my body to be warmish, and my heart to beat, when resuming hopes of my life, she raised me up, and set me leaning forward. I then discharging from my stomach a large quantity of water, from that instant became somewhat sensible; but so sick, that death itself would have proved a desirable relief to me.

It was not long before I was able to speak, when the first word that I uttered was, (as she afterwards told me) where is Mr. *Tyrrell*? The kind creature, who doubted not of his being drowned, replied, by another question, enquiring how I did? Tell me not of myself, said I, where is Mr. *Tyrrell*? She then answered, that she had neither seen or heard of him, or any of the crew, since the boat struck; for that her care had been to preserve me, which was more than she imagined she could ever have effected.

Save me! said I, and let my husband perish! O cruel kindness! O inhuman benevolence! Could you imagine life to be ought to me, without him! O let me seek him amidst the waves! and joining my arms round his cold clay, both sink together, and together perish?

I began to rave so, that she thought my head had been turned, and was obliged to restrain me by all her force from running headlong into the sea; then again, she told me, (for I remember'd very little of it) I would hang my head on her shoulder. O! *Zaphsharrak*, sick, sick, sick to death; then I would cast forth more sea water, which having given me further ease, I would in like manner exclaim again, and attempt to drown myself; and so, alternately, till day light appeared.

She

She said, she verily believed, that had it not been for my struggling, and her endeavours to restrain and quiet me, which kept our bloods circulating, we had both perished with the cold by land, tho' we had so miraculously escaped the water; the wind blowing so severely upon us.

Zaphsharrak, who was not so nearly concerned in the loss as myself, not being able to descry the least thing upon the water, either of the boat or ship; prevailed upon me, by meer force, to get further upon the land; where, after a short walk, we came into a little hut, into which she conducted me, and laid me upon a sort of bed there; but did not strip me, we being both dried by the wind. My sickness and fatigue had cast me into a sound sleep, from which I did not awake in less than four hours; but *Zaphsharrak*, who had her thoughts about her, was under too much perplexity to close her eyes for rest; and had gotten without side the hut, upon a bench in the sun, to keep herself warm, being exceedingly benumb'd and chill'd.

She had not sat there an hour, before she saw three men at a great distance, walking up the country from the shore; but they were too far off for her to discover faces, or habits. She observed, that after some little progress, they made an halt;

turned about fronting the hut, as if they had there first discovered it, and made up to it. Upon their nearer approach, appeared Mr. Tyrrell and two sailors; but no sooner had Tyrrell and she recollected each other, than they run and embraced; and she beginning to express her joy at meeting him alive: alas! said he, where is your companion? Where my dearest wife? She was about replying, that I was safe; when he stop'd her. O! say not that she is lost! that the sea hath washed her away! for I know what you would declare to me, said Mr. Tyrrell. No, let me rather linger out my days in the distant expectation of still meeting her once more.

Stuff
She would again have proceeded to declare where I was; but he, fearing the worst, again interrupted her; with hold, hold, I must believe thou wouldst say, she is alive; but was taken up by strangers, is run away with by land, that the winds have removed her from thy sight; nay, any thing, nay, every thing; but that my wife, my dearest Polly, is no more.

Will you not hear me? Said Zaphbarrak; she is well. She is not, she cannot be, said Tyrrell, it is impossible; yet no cursed wave could be so merciless as to destroy her. O! leave me to my own reflections! Mariana is well, and asleep, within that hut, said she, (pointing to it) O! my good

good genius, said *Tyrrell*, (embracing of her, so that she declared she was almost breathless) is what thou tell'st me true? Shew me the lovely face, in sleep or waking; let me stand and gaze—for ever gaze, and pay my thanks to providence. Wer't but her corps, t'would be a comfort still, to shadow with my face the stiff cold clay, and be myself her monumental covering; but if she lives, by gath'ring genial heat from her warm breast; O! let me live for ages, to prove her patron, lover, friend, adorer.

Tyrrell then drew *Zaphsharrak* with him to the little cabin, where he saw me laid, sound asleep and breathing; then beckoning to her to leave him for fear of disturbing me, he knelt by the bedside, she said, and hung over me; nor ever stirred from thence, for near three hours, till I awaked; herself sitting at a distance all the while, quite silent.

I started from a dream I had had of the past night's transactions; and (methought, was then contending with an hideous sea monster, for the corps of my dearest husband, which it was just about to devour) with these words in my mouth. Monster! thy cursed maw may hold us both; and if it must be so, receive me first, then add my *Tyrrell* to me. I screamed out as I was passing down his throat, which stirred me up to a surprizing agony; but tho' I was awakened, I had not yet opened my eyes.

or could I conceive, but that what I had been dreaming of was a reality ; when *Tyrrell*, desirous of abating my perplexity, which he judged to have been occasioned by some working of my sleeping fancy, gently laid his hand on mine. Avaunt ! thou fiend ! said I ; thou shalt not tear me from him ; when opening my eyes, I had no other notion than that it was a meer phantom by my side. What art thou ? said I. My dear, thy *Tyrrell*, said he, thy husband. Where are we ? replied I. You, my love, said he, have been asleep ; and I have been watching you : but you have had some frightful dream that has discomposed you.

What ? said I, starting up ; and art thou truly *Tyrrell*, in thine own person ? And is all a dream around me ? I am, my love, said he, and will satisfy thee of it ; then rising, he embraced me most fervently. It is very strange, said I ; for I could have sworn it had been fact, that a vast sea monster had devoured me ; and was just gorging you ; and that I drew you into his maw to me. O ! no, my dear, said he, the bountiful hand of providence has preserved us both, I hope, for better purpose, than to become the monster's prey ; but try, compose yourself, (for I was still almost breathless) sit up, and satisfy yourself it is your husband speaks to you ; and let me feast my senses, upon the certainty of having my lovely wife, my dearest *Polly* in my arms.

We

We both, by this time, beginning to recollect ourselves, and *Zaphbarrak* imagining, that tho' we were too much engaged at present, in mutual endearments, to admit any interruption; yet, as they subsided, we should perceive ourselves prest with such other demands, as she herself then was; she began to look out sharp for somewhat for breakfast.

She had enquired of the antient inhabitants of the fabrick, what provision could be made for us; but their stock consisted only of coarse bread, some barley meal, oil, and a few small fishes; from which she immediately set about preparing a meal for us; having sent out the sailors, for each of them an armful of fuel.

Between the good woman and herself, they had soon raised a good mess of gruel, and fried some of the fish in oil; when they called *Tyrrell* and myself to the repast; but tho', whilst I was lying along, I had felt no pain; yet, I no sooner began to stir a little, than I perceived myself so sore all over, especially on my left side, that I was scarce able to move a limb; nor could I conceive the meaning of it. *Mr. Tyrrell* observed at the same time, that my left arm, from my wrist to my elbow, was black in many places; and I was sensible of vast pain in that shoulder; nor was it without difficulty

that I could even stand on my feet, or move from the bed-side to the table, tho' it stood but at the other end of a small room.

After breakfast, (which proved a most refreshing morsel to us all) *Tyrrell* grew impatient for a relation in what manner we had escaped. *Zaphsharrak*, then being best able, told him every circumstance; when he pointed out to me the cause of my arm's appearing so black, and also of the pains in my limbs; not doubting, he said, but upon further examination, I should find many more bruises on my body: but we all concluded, that the stiffness of my joints was owing to chilling too soon on the bed, and not keeping them moving, till by degrees they were become pliable.

Zaphsharrak and I, now prest for an account of Mr. *Tyrrell's* escape, and what was become of the captain, and the rest of the sailors; for we assured him, that we had neither seen or heard any thing, either of them or the boat, after we were cast out of it.

You may remember, said *Tyrrell*, that there were fifteen of us in the boat when we first quitted the ship; but no sooner had the boat returned back with the wave which cast it on shore, than our number amounted but to six; what was become of the rest of you, we knew not, it being so very

very dark; nor saw we any one of you afterwards; but gave up the hopes of all your safeties, nor had we the least prospect of our own, even for the next moment: but by what turn of providence I know not, (for we were to my thinking as much under water as above it) fate still preserved us from finally sinking, and as we imagined, we were carried out a great way to sea; but it was so dark, that we could make no true discovery: till at length a terrible billow, looking like a wall of fire, totally overwhelmed us; and sinking, we lost all stay from the boat, and were committed to the raging waters only, where in my last struggle that I remember, my latest idea was of thee, my dear.

Whatever happened next, happened not to me, for I was insensible of it; nor know I more, than that soon after day-break I awoke upon the sands; but so benumbed that I could scarce stir myself.

I was no sooner sensible of my own being, than I with difficulty arose; when not knowing to which hand of me you were cast ashore, I wandered a great way in a wrong track, (as I since perceive) in quest of your corps, which was the most that I had any expectation of ever more discovering of you; still as I proceeded, lamenting my adverse fate, which had not permitted me to perish by your side. At length I espied these two sailors, who had escaped from the wreck of the boat at the

the same time with myself; but without the least knowledge, either of us, of the others good fortune. They, first informed me that I was in a wrong pursuit; for that you were cast on shore much lower this way.

I could not believe my senses when I first beheld *Zaphsharrak* at this cottage door; but much less could I credit her, when she declared you to be living; having already concluded that to be impossible. But O! thou dear messenger of the most welcome tidings, said he to *Zaphsharrak*, whatever may be your lot, as to the recovery of *Los Cardos*; never shall you want a home, a friend, a father, whilst I live; for unless to the advancement of your fortune, and at your own request, shalt thou never quit us more.

The tears now trickling down *Zaphsharrak's* cheeks; can you forgive me? said she. Forgive thee? What? said Mr. *Tyrrell*. For subjecting you, by my solicitations, to all this calamity; for it is wholly on my account that it hath befallen us, replied she.

Dear lady, said *Tyrrell*, disturb not yourself with the least imagination, that we impute this disaster to our submission to your desires: no, it was our duty to attend to your happiness into whatever part of the world that should have called you: and
still,

still, let me say, that we are so far obliged to your concern for us, that would traversing the whole globe procure your peace, you need but mention it to induce us to the undertaking.

Having moved about a little, first within doors, and then without, I in a good measure recovered the use of my limbs again; when after paying a few sighs to the memory of our deceased friends, we began to consult the meetest measures for our own deliverance from that spot, which we were informed was but a small island, lying off the coast of *Provence*, and that the nearest sea port was *Toulon*: but there being no shipping here, we were left in great uncertainty as to our departure.

The old man had a son, on the other side of the island, who had a boat, in which he often went to the *French* coast; tho' having had such luck in a boat so lately, we shewed great reluctance at attempting that conveyance; but as necessity hath no law, we took the old man as our guide, and with the two sailors our companions, put ourselves upon the journey to his sons.

We set the sailors upon examining the boat, and from their report were to be determined, either upon going in her, or staying where we were, till something better offered; but they having viewed her, and being of opinion, that in a still sea, there
would

would be no danger, tho' they could not answer for a rough passage; and the weather being then very fine and serene, we at length concluded upon the voyage, rather than be confined to the uncertain state we were then in.

We had hired the old man to go with us, that with the two sailors we might make her a gally, with four oars; and were now on board, having proceeded westward, to the extremity of the island, when we descry'd a sail to our left, making for Toulon, as we apprehended.

We all chusing much rather to be on board the large vessel, than in our small tottering craft; Mr. Tyrrell gave our men all possible encouragement to lie in her way, before she should overrun us; and promising them their whole pay, and even a gratuity over and above, if they would put us on board her; they fell upon their speed, and pulled so briskly, that we were in great hopes of obtaining our purposes; but we should scarce have compassed it, had not the ship slackened her sails upon our signals, when we rowed under her bow, and were taken on board; then having contented our boatmen, we were the same night landed safely at Toulon.

would be no danger, they could not answer for a rough passage; and the weather being then

very hot and stormy, we at length concluded upon the voyage, rather than be confined to the water.

CHAP. XV.

Sail to Barcelona. Travel to Madrid. Arrive at Bristol. Travel to Polly's mamma. Their reception. Meeting of Polly and Mrs. Giffard. Relate their travels. Polly takes her mamma to Devonshire.

SURELY, the joy which we received at setting foot upon the continent again, after the scenes we had run through, is scarce to be conceived; and here we held a long consultation, which route we should pursue for *England*.

We did not care to avoid *Madrid* if possible, because of the treasure we had left behind us there; neither could either of us tell of what value *Zaph-
st*'s might be, it consisting in rough jewels, for the most part, of which we were but indifferent judges: but the journey by land seemed to be a very tedious one, let us go which way we would; nor had we women the least relish for the water again, more than was absolutely necessary for our purpose.

We consulted with several masters of vessels; when observing that each advised us according to their several interests, we were still detained in incertitude; one captain, who was to pass through the *Straits* to *England*, advised us by all means to pursue our point that way; while another bound to *Narbonne*, advised us thither; but then, tho' we had been so much forwarder on our journey to *Madrid*, we should have had the *Pyrenees* to have passed; and that proving a strong objection, we took a middle course, as safest and best, and most in our way, by setting sail for *Barcelona*; from whence, after a most fatiguing journey, we arrived again at *Madrid*.

Here we settled accounts with our banker, and passing through *Spain* to *Lisbon*, (for at the sailors request we had enlisted them into our livery, and cloathed them as such at *Madrid*) after a short stay there, we sailed on board an *English* vessel for *Bristol*, where we arrived after a long and rough passage.

Never were poor souls so happy, as Mr. Tyrrell and I, at landing on *English* ground; but tho' *Zaphsharrak* bore up, as well as the nature of her case would admit, it was too evident that her joy was but little advanced by landing with us. We returned all due thanks to that providential guide, who

who had so visibly preserved us from being overborn by the numberless dangers we had so long been obnoxious to in our travels; and above all, for Mr. *Tyrrell* and my own happy union, and for the prospect we had now of beholding our relations, and native homes, which heretofore we had both so little hope of.

Being now in so populous a city, where the best of provisions might be readily made for us, we stay'd there for about ten days, till we had fitted ourselves, and servants, out in an elegant taste, for appearing in publick; for tho' the sailors were now at liberty again, they had both taken such a fancy to us, that they begg'd rather to continue in our service, than to take on again in their old employment.

Mr. *Tyrrell* was desirous of carrying me home to *Devonshire* first, and from thence of making an excursion to my uncles; but the least intimation of my inclination to the contrary, determined him for the latter.

We hired a coach and six at *Bristol*, and arrived the next night at my uncles, about two hours after dark. Our servants knocked at the gate; but no one appearing, and I observing a light in the prayer-room, prevented their giving
any

any more disturbance, till the light should be removed, when I should be sure that all was over.

At the first repeated knock, by my order, the house door opening, it was demanded who was there? But before we could have time to reply, the wench, seeing a coach, and servants on horseback, ran in to call her master. I presently saw my uncle moving forward, with a candle in his hand, and my mamma following, and looking over his shoulder. Now, tho' I had pleased myself all along with the thoughts of suffering them first to have seen me at the coach-side, and of observing whether they would have known me or not; yet nature working too strongly in me for that delay, I no sooner saw my mamma, than I burst out a crying; my dear mamma! said I, as loud as I could bawl. My uncle started, and stopping in the door-way; my mamma, tho' she could not well believe her ears, yet imagining that she knew my voice again, rushed by my uncle, and snatching from him the candle, made up to the coach with all violence.

The moment that she saw it was me, she threw away the candle, forced open the coach-door, and seizing me by the hand, in raptures, drew me into her arms, and hurried me into the parlour; where, before she could embrace me, (as her heart

dictated

dictated to her) she fell into the first chair that presented, and fainted away.

My uncle being in the dark, was unable to guess what was going forward, till the servant replaced the light; by which time Mr. Tyrrell and Zaphsharrak were come into the house to me.

We were all now collected into the parlour; but my mamma's illness prevented every other application than to her recovery, which soon followed, being only an over hurry of her spirits, that in a short time subsided.

If possible, the interview between my mamma and me was tenderer, than between me and Mr. Tyrrell at Ceuta; which I thought nothing could have exceeded. Mr. Tyrrell and I then fell upon our knees, and begged her blessing, as also my uncle's; but when she found that we were married, she was ready to devour my poor husband; and seating herself between us, scarce parted with either of our hands, for the whole evening, sometimes clapping them to her breast, and again kissing them; nor, to judge by her outward expressions of it, could any joy possibly exceed hers.

She now enquired, who that lady was with us? Ah! madam, said I, it is to that lady alone, you owe the sight of Mr. Tyrrell and me; and to her,
we

we are indebted for our arrival in our native land again; which, but for her, it is more than probable, we had never attained.

My mamma then expressed her affection little less to *Zaphsharrak*, than she had done to us; which she returned, in the best broken *English* she was mistress of; for she had by this time gained a good deal, by hearing it almost constantly spoken by Mr. *Tyrrell* and me.

Certainly, brother, said my mamma, there was somewhat of a more than ordinary impulse upon you to-night, in the delivery of your prayers; for, my dear children, added she, tho' your uncle and I have, ever since you left us, prayed constantly for the preservation of you; and that all manner of blessings might attend you, if living; yet, I know not from what motive, but he was this night praying, that we might once more be blest with the sight of the involuntary exiles, if it was the will of heaven, just as you were knocking at the door; and, for my own part, I never seemed to be inspired with such a delightful hope of his petition being answered, before. I cannot therefore conceive, but that there must be some supernatural direction in this; but, said she, you are so full of enjoyment at the sight of me, and your uncle, that you forget to enquire after your cousin *Sophy*.

Dear

Dear mamma, said I, you may be sure, I am not regardless of my cousin, and should have made her health one of my principal demands, had I not rather been able to have given you an account of her, than to have expected it from you.

O the dear girl! said my mamma, how goes she on? Exceeding well, madam, said I, at present. Her plantation not being sufficient for her maintenance, I left her husband and her upon Mr. Tyrrell's; which, with good management, will bring them in three thousand pounds a year, and upwards. Here my mamma and uncle both spoke together. How! three thousand a year? said my uncle. Has Mr. Tyrrell a plantation there? said my mother. In right of my wife, I have, madam, said he, for which we are to receive four thousand a year, penny-rent, upon the *Exchange* of *London*.

These, said my mamma, are mysteries I know not how to comprehend. To-morrow, madam, said Mr. Tyrrell, when we shall be somewhat more disengaged, than we seem at present to be, we shall have such a scene to lay before you, and my uncle, as will not only surprize you, but create an astonishment, at our ever possibly meeting here again.

The

The next day they claimed our promise, of recounting to them our several stories, as soon as we had breakfasted; and Mr. *Tyrrell* applying to me; my dear, said he, I must insist upon your proceeding in the same method that prince *Jonko* laid down for us on the like occasion, to which I condescended; but as we must have had the same work to go over again, whenever we should visit Mrs. *Giffard*, I begged leave of my uncle, that we might invite Mr. *Giffard* and his lady to dine with us that day; when, in the afternoon, we might kill two birds at a throw, by making one repetition serve for both families.

My uncle was immediately for it, by all means, and for my mamma, her will was wholly ours; so they invited them, with strict charge, not to mention us. So soon as the coach appeared at the door, I, as had been agreed, slept out, nor was I to appear again, till proper time; but Mr. *Tyrrell* sat it.

After their surprize at seeing Mr. *Tyrrell*, and suitable compliments had passed on both sides, (he making a very blank story as to me, as if I was not to be found) and after they had almost tired themselves with questioning him, in every thing that they could invent, concerning me; my mamma coming out, sent me into them; but when poor *Giffard* had given thorough credit to her eyes, that
it

it was me, who stood before her ; running to each other, we mutually clasped so close together, and wept so over each other, that our passions could scarce subside again in a full hour's time ; when a summons arriving for dinner, broke in upon our reveries, and put a stop to the further heavings of our bosoms, by restoring us in *statu quo* again.

No sooner was dinner over, than my uncle, who himself longed for our history, making a short speech, by way of introduction to a general silence ; I began, and prosecuted my part of the account, till my release from my intended execution ; when I told them, that as very little of my life had passed in separation from Mr. Tyrrell, from that time, I would refer the remainder of the narration to him.

Mr. Tyrrell then proceeding, he brought us to the coast of *Barbary* ; when I desired him to explain to us the reasons of their sailing away, without once attempting to carry myself, and the rest of the crew, off with them.

He said, that when they had arrived at the ship, which they had intended to seize on, there being two men on board, they resolutely defended her, till they both fell in the action ; for that having but one boat, they could not carry on a double attack. He said, that so much time was consumed in

in this engagement, that when they had put her in sailing order, they perceived our ship to be in possession of the natives, surrounded by such an incredible number of small craft, and those so well mann'd, that it appeared not only to be impossible to save their own ship, and crew, but also to escape captivity themselves, should they have attempted it.

He added, that he insisted, at all adventures, upon running up to the ship, and aiming at rescuing the prisoners at least ; for that it was worse than death to him, but to think of leaving me behind him : nay, he declared, that he had even brought over the captain to second him in the resolution, and to command the men on that enterprize ; but they replied, that while they were on board their own ship, it was their duty to obey him ; but that each man had now as much authority as himself, and that they would not subject themselves to slavery at the caprice of any man ; but would cleave down the first who should dare to steer that way.

He continued, that perceiving neither threats or intreaties would prevail ; he desired, that himself might be permitted to go off in the boat ; which, if he was mad enough to undertake, they said, he might do with all their hearts ; but, upon looking round the vessel, it appeared, that in their hurry

to board the prize, they had some how left their boat adrift, and that the tide had drove her on shore.

But now the boats crowding more and more from the shore, and themselves in fear of being intercepted, no arguments could prevail for a moment's delay: but having once more gotten a sound ship under them, they soon were out of the bay, and had lost all sight of the wreck.

They soon made the main sea; where the wind favouring them, they ran several leagues westward, to avoid falling again into the hands of the *Barbarians*; but as they turned into the norward course, they soon spied two vessels before them, much larger than themselves, whom they would willingly have avoided; and for that purpose took down their *Barbary* colours, which hitherto they had esteemed their protection: but having no others on board, and being *French* built, they were fired at, to bring them too, they still endeavouring to steer clear of the large vessels; but one of them, a prime sailer, bearing down upon them, soon came up with, and boarded them; then following their consort, which they soon found to be another prize, taken but few days before, they brought them both into the harbour of *Sallee*, where they were confined for some months, till they were conducted to *Ceuta*; and

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from that time he went on with our joint transactions till we arrived in *England*.

I then expatiated on the unparalelled civilities which I had received from *Zaphsbarrak*, and the methods she had contrived to gain me admittance to *Mr. Tyrrell*; and that our projected escape arose merely from her motion; with all which the whole company were so delighted, that they were not sufficiently able to express their favourable sentiments of her; but my poor uncle was the most affected with the good fortune, which through our means had befallen his daughter *Sophy*: and what afforded me an excess of pleasure was, that tho' we tarried but ten days with my uncle, he happened in that time to receive a letter from *Sophy* which fully confirmed our report; with this addition, that besides our remittances, *Mr. Morris* had cleared for himself, above, four thousand pounds the very first year, and was not without hopes of increasing it annually for the time to come.

At our departure we begg'd my uncle to spare my mamma home with us, which we could perceive he yielded to with considerable reluctance; but she promising to return to him, and longing, she said, to see us settled, we took her with us to *Devonshire*.

C H A P. XVI.

Arrive at Tyrrell's seat. Gives Polly's uncle a good living. Sir Joseph's estate comes to Polly. Her mother and uncle refuse it. Accidentally meet Los Cardos. Method concerted for discovering Zaphsharrak to him. Their interview. Are married. Their annual correspondence. Death of Mr. Card.

UPON our arrival at Mr. Tyrrell's seat, the first news that we heard was the death of his grandmother, by which her jointure of twelve hundred pounds a year was devolved on him. It was a charming pleasant seat, in the old taste; but was magnificently furnished; and the gardens, fish-ponds, statues, paintings, and other embellishments, were a delightful entertainment to Zaphsharrak.

Mr. Tyrrell had been so long absent from home, and was so rejoiced at the sight of it again, that he had almost forgot poor Zaphsharrak's concerns, which sitting heavy on her mind; after about a month's refreshment, I mentioned to her; assuring her, that we would now enter upon her business;

but my mamma regretting my uncle's loathsomeness all this while by himself, and having hinted at her departure, fixing the time at about a fortnight's distance; Mr. Tyrrell promised to see her safe back; but that we might make *Somersetshire* in our way, if there should be occasion; we first posted a messenger thither to enquire after Mr. Card's family, which having found, he was privately to search, whether he had lately returned from abroad; and if so, and he should still be unmarried, to see him, and give him an invitation to our house, upon business of the utmost importance.

It was near a full fortnight before our messenger returned, having been through almost every town in the whole county, but could hear of no such person; there were a family or two of the name, but they no ways answered the description. At last he found a widow lady so called, and resolved to enquire of her; when she informed him, that she had a son abroad, but whether living or dead, she knew not. That since he had left *England*, he had lost his two elder brothers, and that she held a fine estate for him, in case he should ever return. That the last letter she ever received from him was by way of *Spain*, from *Majorca*; but that it was so long ago, that she very much despaired of his being still living.

Poor

Poor Zaphbarrak, upon this report, bitterly lamented her cruel fate, in having run so many hazards, for the man, whom after all, she had as little prospect of ever meeting with, as at her first entering upon the expedition.

We did all in our powers to elevate her spirits; which however was but barely effectual, for preserving to her an outside shew of content; but was far from restoring tranquillity. We were now about setting out to reconduct my mother home, when word was brought to Mr. Tyrrell, that a clergyman, whose living was about five miles from us, and in Mr. Tyrrell's presentation, was just then dead. I immediately begg'd it for my uncle, it being of near three hundred pounds a year, and it was granted me; whereupon, we put a stop to my mamma's journey, till we had informed my uncle of it; who in return, after many acknowledgements, accepted it; and so soon as he could well remove, resigned his own living, and came to settle upon it.

My mother, notwithstanding Mr. Tyrrell behaved to her in every respect as to his own, rather chose (as she should be so near us) to reside with my uncle, being sensible of the melancholy situation he would be in for want of her.

Matters had not been long thus settled before the news of my father's death reached us; and that he having died without a will, in a fit of debauchery, his estate, for want of an issue male, was descended to me.

We sent over for his house-steward, and ordering him to take care for the funeral; we invited over my mamma and uncle to our house, where Mr. Tyrrell, with my leave, (tho' indeed himself was the first mover of it) made my mamma an offer of all my late father's estate, with his house and furniture, for her life, and that of my uncle; who as much older than her, was not likely to live so long: but he did it that my uncle might be certain of never being dispossessed of it.

While Mr. Tyrrell was in expectation of their thankful acceptance of his donation, the old parson, smiling upon him, replied, that what he was at present, through Mr. Tyrrell's bounty, master of, being so far beyond what he had ever expected in life, had not left him a single wish to gratify. That being so felicitously situated already, he could by no means consent to desert the cause of that master, whose concern for his labours had so amply rewarded him; nor would he submit to any other separation, between him and his flock, than his master's call to a nobler employment: assuring Mr.

Mr. Tyrrell, that he was satisfied, his refusal of the great offer he had made, would redound more to his peace, than his acceptance of it, ever could do.

Mr. Tyrrell was amazed at the old gentleman's abstemiousness; but turning to mamma, madam, said he, as what I offered to my uncle and you, & yourself have an absolute right to in a good measure; your thirds, I mean: I hope you will make no scruple of enjoying the whole for your life, as it in a great measure may be said to be your due.

Son Tyrrell, said my mamma, I have seen much of both sorts of life, the high and the low; and I'll assure you have experienced this to be so infinitely preferable; that it would be a severer stroke to me, (were I to be compelled to quit my brother, and his moderation, for what you are so good to tender me,) than ever I submitted to, in the loss of abundance, with my husband. I have only, while I live, (had I the *Indies* at command) to become a steward for you my children; then grant me all the ease my remains of life can afford me, by releasing me of that burthen, and taking upon yourselves your own stewardship. If it should ever chance to be the will of providence that I should want, as it can be but little, what a blessing will it be, that I know where to require it without grudging.

Finding that no arguments would move those good people to desert their own course, we desisted, and enjoyed it ourselves.

The next spring, Mr. *Tyrrell* having business at *London*, to settle with his *Jamaica* agent, *Zaphsharrak* and I took the journey with him, and stayed about three weeks. In our return home, we inned one night at *Lavington*, when coming in pretty early, we bespoke our supper, and then took a walk about the town. Just as it grew duskish, and we were thinking of returning to our inn, we met a man of a good genteel mein and gait; but very shabby in appearance. I had made these remarks upon him, being somewhat before Mr. *Tyrrell* and *Zaphsharrak*; but immediately after he had passed me, I hearing *Zaphsharrak* make somewhat of an unusual noise, and turning about to see what was the matter, beheld her holding upon Mr. *Tyrrell*'s arm, wholly unable to speak, and seemingly just fainting: I took hold of her other arm, to support her also; but she snatching it out of my hand, pointed earnestly at somewhat. I was extremely sorry that I could not understand her; but imagining that she might want a little water to drink, I ran to an house near at hand, and brought her some, by which time she had recovered just power to signify, that the person who had passed us was *Los Cardos*.

We

We had wasted so much time in recovering her, that he was now out of sight; for either he had (unobserved by us) turned into some house, or down some street; so that we were no ways able to guess where he was: we forthwith leading her home to our inn, were giving our servants instructions for finding him, from the best notices that we had taken of him, when as I passed by the kitchen door, (having, as I said before, so nicely remarked him) I imagined by his back, and the colour of his cloaths, that I saw him sitting there by the fire,

I said nothing then, supposing that he would not quit the inn that night, but had intended to lodge there; so permitting Mr. Tyrrell and Zaphsharrak to enter our lodging room, I took occasion of stepping into the kitchen myself, and of enquiring after our supper, and by that means, of fronting the stranger; when I was well assured, that he was the very same person whom we had met in the street.

I then bore the report to my company, that I had found *Los Cardos*; when Zaphsharrak, whose eyes almost started from her head, was for running to see him directly,

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I assured her that he had taken up his lodging in our inn for that night ; and therefore she need be in no immediate fear of losing him again : but that I, not being so nearly interested in him as herself, could more coolly deliberate on the method of discovering herself to him, than she could ; and begged she would be advised by me in their interview.

My dear, said I, you say that you are arrived to a certainty of his person. O I say, that she was, she said ; for that all the world could not deceive her. Well then, said I, let us suppose, that absence hath slackened his love for you ; or that the sight of some other fair hath withdrawn it ; or that perhaps he may be already married ; let us suppose, I say, that these cases, one or other of them, may possibly have happened, in either of which, he can't now be yours : then ought you to expose yourself, by the transports of a real lover, to him, who, it is even possible, may not be able to return them. Affairs of love, (in our sex especially) are to be judiciously touched. We should rather gain the heart of our admirer, and explore his soul by stratagem, than by extatick expressions of our own desires. I think therefore, upon the whole, that it would be proper for Mr. Tyrrell and myself, at least for him, to visit *Los Cardos*, and discover

discover his sentiments of you, before you too rashly expose yourself, perhaps, to his refusal,

Zaphbarrak could scarce give herself room to conceive that any disappointment could arise to her hopes; but upon second consideration, of the joy it would be to her, to be assured of his remaining passion for her, before she should discover herself to him, she acquiesced to be advised by me.

Zaphbarrak, said I, you see that little room, whose door opens into this; you shall secret yourself there, where you will hear all that passes, and be the better enabled properly to conduct yourself, when the time shall come for your appearance. She seemed to approve of that scheme very well, and having fix'd her there, (under strict engagement not to introduce herself, till we called her, in case it should be necessary) Mr. Tyrrell descended to discourse *Los Cardos*, and to gain an opportunity of inviting him to sup with us, which he soon did, by the common topicks of travellers discourse, and finding him a stranger and alone.

In short, Tyrrell introduced *Los Cardos* to me; when having complimented each other, the two gentlemen fell naturally into discourse of their travels, and we presently satisfied ourselves that he was the very man we wanted.

At length, in order to bring our enquiry nearer to a point, Mr. Tyrrell mentioned his having once been taken captive on the *Barbary* coast, which I perceived brought a deep sigh from *Los Cardos*; who replied, that had been also his misfortune: but, sir, said he, to Mr. Tyrrell, you seem to have well conquered the miseries of that captivity, which I am still condemned to labour under; for tho' I have been expelled that shore these four years, yet my mind hourly revisits it, and could for ever dwell there.

You seem, sir, said Mr. Tyrrell, to have liked the country. Not for its own sake, I'll promise you, sir, replied he; but I was torn from that at my departure, on which every faculty of my soul still hangs: but, pray sir, said he, what part of *Barbary* was you settled at? *Ceuta*, replied Tyrrell. And did you know *Carasmeck* there, added he? I was his slave, said Mr. Tyrrell. Ah! said *Los Cardos*, so was I: and O! that I had never left him!

I then took my turn to admire he should imagine a state of slavery under any man agreeable? Madam, said he, there is a real slavery the most abhorrent to human nature no doubt; but there is also a metaphorical one, from the chains of which we crave no relaxation. I presume then, said Mr. Tyrrell, that you either left a wife or a mistress

mistress behind you. Sir, said *Los Cardos*, you there touch the string which ravishes my soul with its harmony. Nay, perhaps you may have seen her; if so, blame me if I am worthy of it. She was no less than *Carasmeck's* only daughter.

Zaphsharrak, said I. The same, replied he; but did she yield you a return for the love you bore her? I hope she did, said he, I have no cause to doubt it. I have ever since, sir, said he, been travelling from place to place, to divert my melancholy thoughts, for her sake; but can't fairly say that I have virtually ever quitted *Carasmeck's* family; for *Zaphsharrak* is ever present with me. At length, having wasted in travel the little substance I had collected abroad, I am now returning to my brothers, one or other of whom, I am in hopes will just support life in me, sufficient to reflect, to the last moment of it, upon my ever dear *Zaphsharrak*; for I am wholly incapable of applying my mind to business for my own support. O! the burthen of human life! devoid of human happiness!

We had now heard sufficient for our purpose; so that not to detain the lovers longer in pain, said Mr. *Tyrrell*, you are not the stranger to me, sir, that you may imagine; neither are you placed at the vast distance you conceive from your earthly felicity; a very thin partition, I can promise you, sir, stands between yourself and happiness, if *Zaphsharrak*

Sharrak can render you so ; whose chaste affection equals, if not exceeds, your own : neither have you any further need of anxiety about the dependance on your brethren ; for I this day declare you, not only sole master of your family estate, but of the lovely *Zaphsharrak* too.

O ! play not, sir, said he, upon my misfortunes, already too pungent for my sufferance, by alledging impossibilities as realities. You feel not my anguish, sir, or you would rather commiserate me. Sir, said I, could you now bear the sight of *Zaphsharrak* should she enter this room to you ? And would you then credit all the rest ? Madam, replied he, could this gentleman produce her, I should but value all the rest as dirt, unworthy my notice. I want but her in life to make me happy.

Be not surprized, said Mr. Tyrrell, if you see her ; and speaking it with great solemnity, *Los Cardos* turned pale as death. *Zaphsharrak*, said he, come forth. The door instantly opening, *Los Cardos* was ready to sink ; but when he saw her, how wrought his passions, between joy, fear, love, and amazement. He rose, and with caution, touched first her hand, then her lips. My dearest love, said he, speak *Zaphsharrak*, if thou art not her shade, do you know me, said he ?

O! *Los Cardos*, said she, can you, whose image hath never yet quitted my fond heart, demand that question? Am I then so blest, demanded he, as to behold my very *Zaphsharrak*? As surely, replied she, (thanks to these our best of friends) as I am, that my own arm now enfolds my dear *Los Cardos*. O heavens! said he, whence can arise this consummate felicity! I am sorry, said she, for all the difficulties you have undergone for my sake. What! where! my dear, said he, not one, they're lost, they're gone, even to remembrance; drowned in the excess of delight that now surrounds me.

By this time, supper appearing, we were all gaiety; but that ended, after we had chatted a while; alas! sir, said *Los Cardos*, unless you can now prove the residue of your story true, I fear my joys must remain incompleat; for how shall I endure to behold this lovely creature, possess'd of me, in want and poverty; and myself of her, with nothing to maintain her?

Mr. *Tyrrell* then informed him of the enquiry we had made for him, upon the intelligence we had obtained at *Madrid*, and the answer we had received from his mother, who was then living in despair of ever seeing him again; tho' he told him, that should not our information be true, yet *Zaphsharrak*

sharrak was far from being destitute of that support, which industry might improve into a competent subsistence; or had that failed, yet we were not so destitute of common humanity, as to suffer *Zaphsharrak* to want what we could supply.

Los Cardos then gave us a sketch of his affairs, since his leaving *Barbary*, and with that concluded our evening.

The morning light produced us but a very rough beau in the person of *Los Cardos*; for the several parts of his garb had seen such revolutions, that much of its antient establishment had been effaced, nor was it scarce worth owning.

Nothing occasions so great dejection to a man of spirit, as an habit unbecoming both his own worth, and his company; and this seemed to be verified in no one more than *Los Cardos*; for under the prospect of that happy turn his affairs were taking, he could not but be the first to complain of it: now as *Mr. Tyrrell* had promised him a corner of our coach to accompany his *Zaphsharrak* to *Devonshire* with us; he would not suffer him to remain (tho' but in appearance) an unmeet member of our society: so that resting ourselves for a day or two where we were; *Mr. Tyrrell* procured him a proper change of garments, that he might appear as we did: and tho' the old proverb asserts, that

that manners make the man, and indeed with sufficient truth, as to the sensitive part; yet I must say, that as to *Los Cardos*, his person and figure, habit made the man with him; for the very countenance, which before seemed clouded with disgrace and awe, became so brightened with his new dress, that *Zaphsharrak* herself could scarce know him again.

We were no sooner arrived at our seat than we invited over my mamma and uncle, to whom we presented *Los Cardos*: and he being very anxious for the celebration of his nuptials with *Zaphsharrak*, my uncle took her under his care to prepare her for baptism; which was no sooner compleated than the marriage rites were solemnized; and after a stay of some few days with us we accompanied them to their own estate, as happy in their mutual enjoyments as myself and Mr. Tyrrell were.

We tarried but to see them settled, and then returned; but ever after kept up a close correspondence.

Our habitations, with Mr. Giffard's forming much what the several angles of a triangle; once every year we spent six weeks together, for we calling on Mr. Card, took him and his lady with us to Mr. Giffard's for one fortnight; when we
all

all set out for our feat, for another, and from thence to Mr. *Card's* for the third; whence we each parted to our several homes.

Thus engagingly did we live for upwards of twenty years; when Mr. *Card* dying, his widow, on my invitation, came to reside with us; nor is it now the least delightful part of our lives to trace back past facts, and recount former transactions; for adversity can never be beheld in a more amiable light, than when it has changed its scene for prosperity.

F I N I S.